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LEADERS VIEW BEAGLE ISSUE, CRITICIZE GOVERNMENT

PY222220 Buenos Aires HERALD in English 22 Feb 81 p 9

[Text] Leaders of two political parties yesterday referred to the Beagle Channel dispute between Argentina and Chile in statements they made criticizing the military government's handling of the affair.

Leaders of the Intransigent Party called on the government to "abstain from adopting final decision which could harm the future of the country" with regard to the Beagle affair.

"To the accumulation of problems facing the country, concern over the development of the border conflict with Chile, aggravated by the handling the government has given it, must be added," the Intransigents said.

The party leaders went on to say that due to "official silence" the public had been forced to form opinions on the Beagle Channel mediation strictly on the basis of "rumors and conjecture." This tended, the Intransigents felt, to "increase uncertainty over the progress of negotiations."

"In government circles," the statement continued, "all activity unfolds in mystery, shrouded in a silence which has become the norm (and) signifies nothing less than the hiding of events and circumstances from the opinion of the entire country which belongs to it and of which it should be fully aware."

In Salta, national Centrist Party leader Pablo Gonzalez Bergez told the newspaper EL TRIBUNO that the country "finds itself overshadowed by the specter of serious and notorious problems" which he said should be attended to immediately by the new government which will take office on March 29, "because of the explosive charge which they contain."

Beagle Reply Ready

PY222206 Buenos Aires HERALD in English 21 Feb 81 p 9

[Text] (NA)--Argentina's reply to the pope's suggestion for a solution to the Beagle Channel controversy will be sent to the Vatican next week, according to the morning newspaper CLARIN.

It quotes reliable sources as affirming that the military committee last Tuesday unanimously approved the text of the message. The reply is reportedly divided into two parts, one in which the Argentine Government analyzes the papal suggestions and a second in which Argentina enumerates its objections to the pope's proposals.

CRITICISM OF GOVERNMENT ECONOMIC POLICY CONTINUES

PY222209 Buenos Aires HERALD in English 22 Feb 81 p 9

[Text] (NA)--Politicians, labor and industrial leaders yesterday continued their attack on the government's economic policy citing its failures and suggesting steps to restore stability to the panicky economic scene.

The Foundation for Development Research (FIDE) said in a press statement that while government reserves were $5,600 million this month, financial commitments amounted to between 10 and 11 billion (thousand million) dollars.

"The economic incidents in the first part of February confirm the unfeasibility of the economic strategy applied during the last 5 years...and, though the recently adopted measures may modify the drain of international reserves, it will be at...a high recessive cost," the statement said.

"There are no interest rates high enough nor peso devaluations sufficient to attract the necessary short-term capital to bring foreign accounts up to a balancing point," the statement continued. Accountant Abel Fernandez, former city councilman, for the Justicialist Party, insists that a totally new economic plan is essential and suggested several measures to "temporarily palliate the crisis." These include a general economic moratorium, a gradual decline in interest rates and indexations, the creation of diverse types of dollar differentials, and an energetic cut in public spending. Fernandez emphasized that he is not referring to "magic solutions." The Plastics Industry Chamber of Cordoba yesterday issued a critical statement calling on the armed forces to "keep a close eye on the process" so that the next economic policy "isn't as deceptive as this one," and asked that their demands be heard so that "our industry can be saved."

They said the productive apparatus has been "totally smothered by a growing fiscal deficit, an inflation which only is dropping in the statistics, a deplorable financial system, and heavy tax pressure." Socialist Roben Visconti said on Friday that the "national economy has its helm outside the country, and the minister executing the plan sailed in difficult waters until he was left totally adrift." "Sometimes he kicked around statistics, other times he proposed policies which ran away from him, and during each occasion he denied the reality of the plan...not because he was aware of the reality but because he had to deny it to achieve the objectives of the plan," Visconti said. Social Democratic Party leader Americo Ghioldi said in a public statement, that Economy Minister Jose Martinez de Hoz has "advanced the formulation of a doctrine of continuation in which it doesn't take much to discover that it is a postulate which required continuing military power."

MENENDEZ FORMS MOVEMENT TO DEFEND SOVEREIGNTY

PY212158 Buenos Aires HERALD in English 21 Feb 81 p 9

[Text] (NA)--Cordoba--Retired General Luciano Benjamin Menendez--the former III Army Corps commander who led an abortive military uprising against then Army Commander in Chief Roberto Viola late in 1979 over what he indicated were affairs of national security--yesterday announced the formation of a group called Movement for the Affirmation of Sovereignty (MAS). The formation of MAS, the aim of which is the defense of national sovereignty, was announced in a statement released at a press conference which Menendez held yesterday. Other signatures on the statement were those of retired Commodore Jorge Martinez Thompson, Retired General Fernando Santiago, Retired Admiral Carlos Garcia Favre, Retired Colonel Nestor Ulla and Doctors Reinaldo Zamora, Ernesto Aracena, Mario Victor Menso, Leonardo Obeid, Enrique Nores Bodereau, Pedro Baquero and other civilians. Explaining more specifically the purpose of MAS, the statement said that "the mutilation of the Agentine people's territory or sea signifies an objective and essential question which worries us...as nationals."

It goes on to say that "from this, as an immediate concern, arises the necessity of seeking official information on the southern (Beagle) conflict..." The premise which the military-civilian group qualified as "nonnegotiable" was the oceanic principle of "Argentina in the Atlantic, Chile in the Pacific."

VENEZUELAN FOREIGN MINISTER LEAVES COUNTRY

PY192339 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2233 GMT 19 Feb 81

[Text] Buenos Aires, 19 Feb (NA)--Venezuelan Foreign Minister Alberto Zambrano Velasco today concluded a 48-hour visit to Argentina in which he prepared the bases for future joint action with the Buenos Aires government in which a Latin American strategy will be drafted. Zambrano departed at approximately 1830, after having been seen off by Foreign Ministry officials and air force authorities. Before departing this capital, the Venezuelan foreign minister expressed his thanks for all the attention given him during his stay and he sent greetings to all Argentines.

CONTINUING REPORTAGE ON BITTERMAN KIDNAPPING

Army Denies Insurgent Claim

PA210118 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 2330 GMT 20 Feb 81

[Text] Bogota--The Army said the insurgents' charge that the army is responsible for the kidnapping of linguist Chester Allen Bitterman is absurd. It is absurd and illogical to think that the army kidnapped the Summer Institute of Linguistics' official, military spokesmen stated, voicing concern over the attitude [word indistinct] the 19 April Movement. It was also noted that if they have gone to such extremes it means that they are being hasty, and insurgents are all the more dangerous under such circumstances.

Rightist Group Threatens CP

PA220425 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0415 GMT 22 Feb 81

[Text] Bogota, 21 Feb (EFE)--A Colombian ultrarightist group that identified itself as "Talion" announced here today that it will kill a high-ranking member of the Communist Party if the 19 April Movement [M-19] guerrilla group executes American scientist Chester Allen Bitterman.

In an anonymous telephone call to the EFE news agency in Bogota, a man said that his movement will not allow the M-19 group to continue doing whatever it sees fit to do.

Bitterman's Fate Uncertain

PA222205 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2132 GMT 22 Feb 81

[Text] Bogota, 22 Feb (EFE)--There is general uncertainty in Colombia today concerning the kidnapping and threatened execution of U.S. scientist Chester Allen Bitterman by the 19 April Movement [M-19] guerrilla group of this country.

No new developments on Bitterman, official of the Summer Institute of Linguistics [ILV], have been reported by the guerrillas since Friday's telephone calls to EFE announcing that their prisoner would be executed at 0500 GMT today.

The police, the state secret agencies, and the Colombian press have apparently not been able to obtain new information on the case despite being on the alert for any new developments.

The M-19 National Coordinating Board, which claimed credit for the kidnapping, is demanding the immediate withdrawal of the ILV from the country before it will release Bitterman. This demand was refused by the ILV directors who said they will only leave Colombia "when our tasks are completed."

The institute is engaged in a study of the native Indians in the eastern plains of the country, but it has been charged with introducing religions and customs different from those of Colombia. These charges, however, have not yet been proven.

POLICE ARREST ABOUT 100 IN RIOTS IN SEVERAL CITIES

PA210417 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0332 GMT 21 Feb 81

[Text] Bogota, 20 Feb (EFE)--Approximately 100 persons were arrested today in several Colombian cities following violent riots during which demonstrators set buses on fire and clashed with antiriot police units.

Police headquarters have announced that in Barranquilla, an important Colombian port on the Atlantic, groups of students set fire to three urban buses. Bus employees of this city today were again on strike for the second day in a row. This has forced the local authorities to ask the army to guard the main streets and avenues to prevent disorders.

In Botota, the police controlled small outbreaks of violence in the southern suburbs, where hooded young people threw rocks at official buses and cars. In the afternoon, bus services were notably reduced. This affected the employees leaving their places of employment.

This afternoon there was a huge demonstration by people protesting the high cost of living. The demonstrators marched through an important Bogota avenue but there were no disorders and no one was arrested, the central police headquarters has told EFE.

Meanwhile, military troops were on guard duty in the central sectors of the capital. In the city of Ocana, approximately 578 km from Bogota, a group of 33 persons seized a church. The police are now watching the area around the church.

A police spokesman has indicated that approximately 100 persons, most of them students and workers, were arrested today in Barranquilla and Bogota during the demonstrations.

Strict Police Control Imposed

PA210450 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 2330 GMT 20 Feb 81

[Text] Bogota--The government imposed a dry law in the capital of the Atlantico Department and strict police control over the Baranquilla area, where the popular marketplaces and the transportation terminals are located. The strong action and the military control are due to the 3-day-old strike staged by the Baranquilla transportation firms.

Another strict measure by the departmental government was to take away the operation permit of the firms which had asked for the removal of the transportation secretary in the department.

PRC DELEGATION EXTENDS INVITATION TO PRESIDENT

PA181955 Bogota Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 17 Feb 81

[Summary] Colombian President Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala was visited this morning by the members of a People's Republic of China delegation who formally invited him to visit their country.

the delegation was headed by Ngapoi Ngawang Jigme, vice chairman of the NPC Standing Committee, who said that his visit had been "for purposes of improving friendship between our two countries," and to "strengthen ties between the leaders of the two countries."

The delegation head expressed his pleasure at having been received by the Colombian president and said, "we have officially invited the president to visit China." He added, however, that "the date has not been confirmed," but "we are sure the president's visit to China will be warmly welcomed by the Chinese people."

PERU BORDER CONFLICT RENEWED; NEW ATTACKS REPORTED

President Roldos Address

PA210003 Quito Domestic Service in Spanish 0139 GMT 20 Feb 81

[Speech to the nation by President Jaime Roldos; broadcast in progress--live]

[Excerpts] ...I want to tell you, Ecuadoreans, clearly and frankly, that I shall always speak to you in the same manner, because a democratic government has no reason to hide anything from its people. That is why I tell you that I face problems as they appear. Ecuador is a peace-loving nation, respectful of the law. Ecuador did not want the armed confrontation with Peru. However, with a dignified, democratic and responsible government, Ecuador will never permit any abuse of the sovereignty inherited from our ancestors.

That is why, when the Peruvian aggression of 22 January 1981 took place, and again on 28 January, the national government adopted all measures, military and diplomatic, to counter it. The difficult hours are not yet over. I want to tell you that there are still rumors circulating, which defile those who spread them, that Ecuador is using the Peruvian aggression as a pretext. It would be criminal and treacherous for a government to risk human lives and risk the existence of peace itself to find a solution to its problems. The rumors went so far as to claim that this government was not telling the people the truth. The government has kept you, Ecuadoreans, informed of every incident as it happened. The same information that the national armed forces reported on the situation at the battle-front was passed on to you.

Some Ecuadoreans said that the armed forces were no longer in the El Condor Mountain Range. There were even those who said that we were not in Machinaza, in Mayayco and that we were no longer in the area of the Paquisha outposts. All of this has been proven in the Ecuadorean federation. In addition, Peru's enormous publicity campaign to distort the facts was not absent from this country (?for the purpose of confusion), to try to present Ecuador as an aggressor country, only to say later that we had been dislodged from the El Condor Mountain Range.

Our armed forces, our Ecuadorean soldiers, have always defended the El Condor Mountain Range with honor and courage. That is why, in the face of the Peruvian assertion and the Ecuadorean assertion, one of the two was false, one of the two lied.

The Peruvian papers in the past 48 hours indisted that Ecuador is continuing the invasion, that Ecuadorean troops are still in the Condor Range. They are even inciting further aggression against our country. We seek peace. We want peace. We have also said, however, that such a peace must be with complete dignity. We have not used, nor shall we ever use as a pretext, the sacred rights of Ecuadorean sovereignty.

Ecuador is not going to enter an arms race, but from now on it will defend its territorial inheritance firmly. That which is shouted in the streets about sacrificing for the fatherland must not remain merely words, Ecuadoreans. It requires economic resources. How then can the government make use of the necessary resources for the defense of the country? We must reduce all plans included in the national budget, the state must find resources to defend the country.

There are those who speak of taking advantage of the historic moment. This I reject with all my energy. I ask you, if the problems get worse in the future, what would those people who today criticize the government for having adopted economic measures say? They would say I did not have the courage at theproper time to adopt the necessary precautionary measures. We have made decisions because this government assumes its responsibility fully.

I assume the responsibility, Ecuadoreans, to render account to those whom I have to by law. This is the attitude a president of the republic must assume in a constitutional and democratic government. With the same firmness and determination that I assumed the territorial defense of my country, I assume today the responsibility for this measure.

I must insist on this once again. Ecuador is not engaged in an arms race. This entails enormous costs. But the nation must also responsibly know how to defend itself. And the first characteristic of defense is the solidarity of a nation, the unity of a nation, the organization of a nation. A nation in chaos, a nation in disorder without discipline is a nation that is soon the victim of any aggression. That is why, Ecuadoreans, it hurts me, how in an irresponsible way an attempt is made to confuse the citizens, an attempt is being made, based on demagoguery, to become the leaders of a popular action.

This is a democratic government, that is why there is liberty. That is why we do not fear judgments or criticism. But please, let us be constructive in this nation. And that is why the national government, taking into consideration popular organization and the fact that discipline is fundamental in a community, is seeking to implement a series of measures to achieve this goal.

If I were a vain man, if I did not feel responsible for the future of my fatherland, I would not have cared and would not have adopted the measures I have adopted. Because of the problems we have had, the president has received ovations, applause and backing everywhere from our affectionate people amid national unity.

National unity means not only emotions. It means a profound patriotic conviction. It is not enough to say we are prepared to make sacrifices. I believe in the capacity for sacrifice of my people. However, I also tell you [words indistinct]. If you are capable of ultimate sacrifice, of sacrificing even your own life, why not make some sacrifices in response to a responsible and honest request from a government?

I can summarize the scope of the measures we have adopted in three major areas. First, they involve a reduction--hear me well--a reduction in the subsidy on hydrocarbons. Second, they provide for an indispensable tariff and monetary measures to end the inflation spiral. Third--and these are only proposals whose adoption depends on the approval of the house of representatives--they involve the enactment of two taxes, that is, a tax on cigarettes and a tax on vehicles.

In the diplomatic field, we are making efforts for peace to be lasting, a peace that will not imply a break in the cease-fire. I will not renounce a single one of Ecuador's territorial rights. We want to settle differences in peace, but in just peace. Pope Pius XII used to say--and I like to repeat it frequently--that peace is reached through the path of justice. And this is what Ecuador wants, a peace of justice.

Today in the face of the war conflict of 22 January, we also want peace, and we proclaim this peace. We believe that the steps taken so far by the friendly nations are highly constructive and positive. All this, however, must be achieved within the framework of respect for the sovereign territorial rights of Ecuador.

That is why we say that a responsible government must know how to achieve peace.

Today we have an international problem. Today we have domestic problems. And we have to march on together, conscientious, determined as to what to do. Therefore, I repeat to you: Today more than ever before, voice solidarity [word indistinct].

Today more than ever before, let us perform each and every function responsibly.

Ecuadoreans, as I am speaking to you, I am profoundly moved because I believe and I want my words to reach you. I have never lied to you. You have seen us in a time of crisis, which is still not resolved, zealously defending our nation. [Words indistinct] I am explaining all this as something that is necessary for everything else to follow, and I tell you that the measures that we took had to be taken. I understand what all this means and I ask you to understand us. May peace be restored tomorrow. May some sectors return to work, students to school, drivers to work. May workers be aware, as they are, of their ability to (?deliver) and also that whatever negative things they might do can have unforeseeable effects in the nation.

I ask all Ecuadorean sectors to voice peacefully and legally whatever criticism or observation they may want to make, as they are fully entitled to make. Since the government is constitutional and democratic, it is open to criticism and differing views but, for the same reasons, it is also totally firm in its [word indistinct] and decisions.

Ecuadoreans, may the situation we are experiencing be a situation which we will remember tomorrow as a historic situation in a country which, experiencing the hardest trial, proved to itself and to others that words are accompanied by deeds, that, if we speak of sacrifice, we are ready to make sacrifices as the national armed forces have shown us and as those soldiers along the border, that border which we built proudly, (?have proven).

I never give an order that I myself cannot carry out. Therefore, rest assured that I will always grapple with all the substantial national issues and so I reiterate to you that, at this time as throughout my life, my thoughts, my words and my actions are for the country and the people. I swear that to you, Ecuadoreans.

New Peruvian Attacks Reported

PA201823 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1730 GMT 20 Feb 81

[Raul Zambrano report]

[Excerpt] Augusto Alvarado Garcia, national secretary of public information, has just made the following announcement:

[Begin recording] We have called this news conference to report a most unfortunate development which is cause of great concern to the Ecuadorean Government.

Two attacks took place this morning by Peruvian helicopter gunships against our detachments in the border area. The first attack took place at 0730 hours on Machinaza, while the second took place 1000 against the Mayayco detachment.

This action was immediately reported to the governments of Argentina, Brazil, Chile and the United States, which, as friendly nations and members of the OAS, are intervening in the pacification process between our country and Peru.

Ecuador has reiterated and again reiterates its decision to maintain peace, but likewise it must defend its sovereignty.

The incursion of the Peruvian helicopter gunships lasted until approximately 1050.

Due to communications difficulties in the area, it is impossible to provide further information at this time. We reiterate, however, that the Ecuadorean people have the right to be kept abreast of developments; therefore, once we have confirmed information, we will report it to the nation.

In conclusion, we wish to bring to the attention of the Ecuadorean people that again we are faced with an armed conflict with Peru. [end recording]

Paratroopers Land by Outpost

PA210246 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0038 GMT 21 Feb 81

[By George Rodriguez Oteiza]

[Excerpt] Quito, 20 Feb (LATIN)--Ecuador today reported that 100 Peruvian paratroopers were dropped on one of the two military outposts that were attacked by helicopters this morning along the disputed common border.

"This is a very serious emergency situation," Government Minister Carlos Feraud said reporting the incident with the paratroopers in the El Condor Range, about 670 km south of here.

"We have been insisting on this: The situation was not at all solved with the cease-fire," which was agreed to between the two nations on 2 February after 5 days of fighting in the area.

The minister stated that the Peruvian paratroopers were dropped on Machinaza.

Ecuadorean troops are "heroically" defending their positions, the minister added in his statement to the press tonight.

Attacks Called 'Provocation'

PA211256 Paris AFP in Spanish 0436 GMT 21 Feb 81

[Text] Quito, 20 Feb (AFP)--The Ecuadorean Foreign Ministry tonight said "the attacks on the Ecuadorean border posts are acts of provocation which will not make Ecuador deviate from its legal position based on facts."

The Foreign Ministry referred to reports received at noon today that the Ecuadorean outposts at Machinaza and Mayayco, in the El Condor Range, were machinegunned by Peruvian helicopter gunships.

Government Minister Carlos Feraud this afternoon affirmed that in addition to the machinegunning, some 100 men had been landed at Machinaza, where fighting is probably underway.

According to the Office of Public Information, the Peruvian attacks on the Ecuadorean posts were carried out at 0730 (1230 GMT) and 1000 (1500 GMT).

The Foreign Ministry noted that it is upholding its legal stand; that confirmation of the facts are being obtained on the spot by the OAS observers there. This mission includes the military attaches of the U.S., Argentine, Brazilian and Chilean Embassies in Quito and Lima.

"Ecuador," the note states, "reiterates its efforts to seek peace, which is indispensable to settling the border problems with Peru."

It affirms that it "will not resort to hostile or warlike acts, that it invokes the principles of international law so that the Peruvian Government may moderate its attitude, control its military power and abstain from further violations of its solemn commitments to the OAS."

Roldos, Cabinet Meet

PA221504 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1230 GMT 21 Feb 81

[Text] The cabinet held a lengthy session presided over by President Jaime Roldos to analyze the latest developments in the country. Public Information Secretary Augusto Alvarado Garcia said the cabinet reviewed the situation in the country and the reaction triggered by the economic measures. It also studied the international problem created by the new Peruvian aggression.

Alvarado said the Peruvian claims are simply more lies by that country, and added that since 1000 yesterday, when the last attack took place, there has been total calm in the area.

He said the Foreign Ministry is working intensely on the reports to be submitted to friendly nations and to the OAS about the new aggression. It would be premature to speak of the possibility that Ecuador may call for a new OAS meeting, he said. The official did not rule out the possibility that the government may break diplomatic relations with Peru. In fact, he added, that is very possible.

Referring to the domestic situation, the information secretary pointed out that the students' reaction responds to the position of the government opponents who want to exploit the situation to damage the administration's image.

Alvarado Garcia said there was one person seriously injured in yesterday's disturbances in Quito, and others with slight injuries.

More Helicopter Attacks Reported

PA212210 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2059 GMT 21 Feb 81

[By George Rodriguez Oteiza]

[Excerpt] Quito, 21 Feb (LATIN)--Ecuador has charged that Peruvian helicopter gunships today attacked an Ecuadorean military post in the El Condor Range border region. This is the second incident of this type in the past 2 days.

The Office of the National Secretary of Public Information has issued a communique stating that Peruvian aircraft "fired on and bombed" the Mayayco military post, 670 km south of Quito, at 1120 and 1210 (1620 and 1710 GMT).

The document, which quoted the High Command of the Ecuadorean Armed Forces did not say whether there have been casualties.

The Mayayco and Machinaza posts, both in the El Condor region, were attacked twice yesterday by Peruvian helicopters, according to Ecuadorean charges.

There were serious clashes in that region 3 weeks ago. Those clashes ended with a cease-fire accepted on 2 February by the two sides.

In Lima, the Peruvian Government has reported that yesterday's incident took place when Ecuadorean troops attacked a reconnaissance helicopter flying in that country [as received] and that as a result of the attack, the copilot died and 13 soldiers were wounded.

In another communique, the Office of the National Secretary of Public Information has accused Peru of preparing new incidents with a campaign that includes official statements and news reports.

The document states: "The official reports from Peru and the news media of that country... speak about cleanup operations and other actions that the Peruvian Armed Forces reportedly would carry out" in the region. The document adds: "There is no doubt...that an attack was being prepared to blame Ecuador, as happened on Friday."

The official communique adds: "It cannot be understood how, while a cease-fire that has been entirely respected by Ecuador is in effect, Peru has sent four of its helicopters, on two occasions, to machinegun Ecuadorean military posts."

The communique noted that the Ecuadorean military posts "have been there for a long time and they were never dislodged...during the conflict which was provoked by surprise attacks from Peru."

Peruvian Communique Denounced

PA220440 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0402 GMT 22 Feb 81

[Text] Quito, 21 Feb (EFE)--Ecuador officially denounced tonight the "challenging" and "aggressive" attitude adopted by the Peruvian Government after having violated the cease-fire agreed upon at OAS headquarters.

The charges were made by official government spokesman Augusto Alvarado when commenting on a communique issued tonight by the Lima government saying that the Peruvian Armed Forces "have evicted the invaders, a task it has achieved by occupying the two posts set up by them (the Ecuadoreans)."

Alvarado added: "This is probably the fifth or sixth time Peru has talked about such recoveries and in this way it is trying to deceive the hemisphere and the Peruvian people themselves by covering up its aggressive actions committed on Friday and Saturday (yesterday and today), violating the terms to which it was obligated in Wasington."

The official spokesman said that the Peruvian statement that it considers these persistent Ecuadorean "infiltrations" as "acts of war," is nothing but "an open and flagrant violation" of the agreement reached with the mediation of the OAS.

He explained that "inasmuch as there is not a marked border line" the conflict area, to say that the area where the Ecuadorean troops are is "Peruvian soil," is "simply a unilateral position of challenge that implies a contempt for the mechanisms of the hemisphere which achieved a cease-fire."

According to the Ecuadorean Government spokesman, with this attitude Peru "is preparing the group for further attacks and plunderings."

Ecuador "abides by and will continue abiding by its commitments," Augusto Alvarado emphasized, nothing that it therefore believes it is important to point out this "challenging, aggressive attitude which is indicative of a desperate mentality" which has been adopted by the Peruvian Government.

And this Peruvian attitude, he concluded, "involves a virtual disregard of international authority and of the instruments and commitments that obligue the countries of the Americas."

Peru Ultimatum Rejected

PA221239 Paris AFP in Spanish 0559 GMT 22 Feb 81

[Text] Quito, 22 Feb (AFP)--The Ecuadorean Foreign Ministry has rejected the Peruvian ultimatum that Ecuadorean military posts be withdrawn from the El Condor Range, which Peru described as "infiltration" and considered as act of war and for which it says actions will be taken in Ecuadorean territory.

The Foreign Ministry announced that the governments of Argentina, Brazil, Chile and the United States have been advised of this threat.

The Ecuadorean Government, the note states, is certain that these countries will know how to act diligently and effectively to prevent an act which would be a veritable shame for America and which would be tantamount to an aggression and an offense against the legal system on which American coexistence is based. Furthermore, it adds, it would be equivalent to disregarding the peace formula solemnly accepted before the foreign ministers and delegates who attended the 10th OAS consultative meeting of foreign ministers.

PROTEST NOTE CONVEYED TO CUBAN AMBASSADOR

PA220301 Paris AFP in Spanish 2321 GMT 21 Feb 81

[Text] Quito, 21 Feb (AFP)--Ecuadorean Foreign Minister Alfonso Barrera Valverde conveyed a protest note to the Cuban ambassador accredited in Quito containing the Ecuadorean Government's rejection of the eviction of the Cubans from the Ecuadorean Embassy in Havana without the Ecuadorean Government's permission.

The text of the message produced by the Foreign Ministry says among other things that "in no case would our government accept the use of force or a military operation against those who were occupying the embassy.

"I must specifically say that the release of Ambassador Jorge Perez Concha and Councillor Francisco Proano in no way implied the possibility that any action could be taken against the occupiers."

The foreign minister notes that upon learning of the police arrest of the occupiers of the Ecuadorean Embassy, on behalf of my government I convey to your excellency's government "the most formal and strongest protest over the actions of the special Cuban security forces at the Ecuadorean Embassy in Havana. These actions were a clear-cut violation of the norms and agreements of international law."

"I am obliged to note," Barrera says, "that, through a (?firm adherence) to the principles followed by Ecuador, it cannot and could not consent to any violence, and it was and is convinced that legal and peaceful mechanisms are the only advisable procedures to resolve this situation."

"Therefore," he adds, "as far as the Ecuadorean Government is concerned, Cuba is still dutybound to provide the most complete protection to the people who were occupying the embassy and to uphold their rights because Ecuadore holds the Cuban Government responsible for the welfare of those people and for respecting their rights."

The foreign minister finally notes that he has instructed Ambassador Perez Concha to return to Quito.

SITUATION ON PERU-ECUADOR BORDER BECOMES TENSE

Foreign Ministry Denial

PY201201 Lima Radio America in Spanish 1130 GMT 20 Feb 81

[Text] A Peruvian Foreign Ministry spokesman has categorically denied rumors circulating yesterday in Quito that Peru has violated the cease-fire on the Peruvian-Ecuadorean border. He noted that the Peruvian Armed Forces are upholding (?the cease-fire) agreed on by the two governments, and that the situation in the Condor Mountain Range is calm.

The Foreign Ministry spokesman also noted that the armed forces have not expelled any Ecuadorean citizens and that Peruvian officials are only carrying out routine reconnaissance activities in the Comaina River area.

The spokesman reported that Peru has already answered the proposal made by the guarantor countries of the Rio de Janeiro Protocol to overcome the border conflict with Ecuador. He added that the proposal has not been made public and that it will be discussed through the guarantor countries--Argentina, Brazil, Chile and the United States.

Senator's Comment

PY201450 Lima Radio America in Spanish 1130 GMT 20 Feb 81

[Text] Senator Javier Alva Orlandini, second vice president, has reiterated that the Peruvian Government once again restates its request for prudence to the Ecuadorean Government. He added that if the (?situation) is not overcome Peru will have to act drastically.

Alva Orlandini made these statements before leaving for a 5-day visit to Israel.

He said that diplomatic relations with Bolivia are in keeping with the foreign policy established by the democratic government, but that this does not mean we accept the internal situation of that country, which is governed by a military regime.

He also said that the executive branch will have to appoint an ambassador to Chile in April, but that the Peruvian diplomat will have to be approved by congress.

Giving his opinion on the reduction of U.S. aid to Latin America, Alva Orlandini stated that he asked President Ronald Reagan that this reduction not [words indistinct] Peru naturally.

Cleanup Operation

PY210045 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2350 GMT 20 Feb 81

[Text] Lima, 20 Feb (LATIN)--Peruvian Government officials today declined to comment on Ecuador's charge that Peruvian forces had attacked two Ecuadorean detachments located at the disputed border.

Yet, military sources have told LATIN that an operation designed to dislodge Ecuadorean troops from Peruvian territory was carefully prepared in recent days.

The sources added that military communications between Lima and the disputed area of the Condor Mountain Range--the site of the 5-day struggle that took place 3 weeks ago--were interrupted by the Peruvian officials. In view of this the sources were unable to confirm whether the operation has already started.

The cleanup operation was prepared after reconnaissance helicopters found that Ecuadorean personnel were still in Peruvian territory, they added. The two parties agreed to observe a cease-fire at the site of the incidents, located approximately 250 km inside the coastal province of Tumbes. In the wake of the announcement of the cease-fire, Peruvian Army officers reported that small groups of Ecuadorean soldiers were still in the Peruvian sector of the Condor Mountain Range.

The sources indicated that other groups of Ecuadorean soldiers were seen this week in the vicinity of the Cenepa River, 30 km north of the site where the clashes started. Government officials have said that Peru is willing to allow the Ecuadorean soldiers return to their country. Government sources have noted, however, that there is growing uneasiness among various sectors of the armed forces in the face of the continuing presence of foreign troops on Peruvian soil.

These sectors have exerted pressure on the civilian government of President Belaunde Terry to obtain the appropriate authorization to immediately and ultimately expel the Ecuadorean troops from the country, the sources said. The conflict broke out in that region on 28 January, when Peru charged Ecuador with having occupied three military observation posts located within its territory. The Peruvian officials declared a unilateral cease-fire after recapturing these positions. Ecuador has a historical claim on northern Peruvian regions which are rich in petroleum and which would give it access to the Amazon and Maranon Rivers.

Denial of Attack on Ecuador

PY210258 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0244 GMT 21 Feb 81

[Text] Lima, 20 Feb (LATIN)--Peru denied tonight that its armed forces have attacked two Ecuadorean detachments located in the Condor Mountain Range, at the border between the two countries. A Foreign Ministry spokesman said that the government "categorically denies the Ecuadorean charges that the Peruvian Armed Forces have violated the cease-fire." The spokesman declined to elaborate on this subject.

Armed Forces Communique

PY211119 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0506 GMT 21 Feb 81

[Text] Lima, 20 Feb (LATIN)--The following is a communique of the Armed Forces Joint Command regarding the shooting down of an army helicopter by Ecuadorean forces in the Condor Mountain Range on the border between Peru and Ecuador.

The Joint Command informs the citizens of the following:

1. An army helicopter was shot down from the ground today at 1030 while carrying out a routine patrol near Observation Post No 4.

2. As a consequence of this incident, armed helicopters were sent to aid the crew. Since resistance was met it became necessary to silence the enemy fire and the invaders were then disloged from where they had entrenched themselves and compelled to withdraw. Our forces took and are holding the area.

3. Lt Julio Ponce Antunez, copilot of the downed helicopter, died honorably in the action and the pilot, Major Polanco, was seriously wounded. The action also claimed 12 wounded in various degrees of seriousness.

Lima, 20 February 1981.

Foreign Minister's Comment

PY211238 Lima Radio America in Spanish 1130 GMT 21 Feb 81

[Text] Foreign Minister Javier Arias Stella disclosed early this morning that the guarantor countries have been informed of the new Ecuadorean aggression. He also stated that they have also been requested to verify on the site the truth of the Peruvian report. Arias Stella added that the government has taken the necessary measures to duly defend national territory.

[Begin Arias recording] As we have been reporting on the dislodging of intruders from [words indistinct] far from withdrawing to the other side of the Condor Mountain Range, they have been trying to reorganize and it is very possible that one of those detachments attacked the helicopters. We immediately reported this to the guarantors through the armed forces communique. We have once again asked the guarantors to come and verify the truth of our reports and to see for themselves that these incidents are occurring in Peruvian territory--incidents which are endangering the peace of these countries. [end recording]

Air France Plane Departure

PY211529 Paris AFP in Spanish 1450 GMT 21 Feb 81

[Text] Lima, 21 Feb (AFP)--An Air France plane which was inspected at Jorge Chavez airport in Lima last night left for Quito today at 0840 (1340 GMT) after a slight delay.

Undeclared cargo on board the plane being shipped from Paris to Quito via Cayena, Manaus and Lima, caused the military authorities at the Lima airport to conduct strict investigation.

Contrary to what had been announced, the presence of the French ambassador was not demanded at the airport to open the large crates destined as cargo to Quito.

Ever since the border conflict between Peru and Ecuador broke out on 28 January in the Condor Mountain Range region all shipments to Ecuador are inspected thoroughly here.

Guarantors' Cease-fire Appeal

PY230209 Paris AFP in Spanish 0142 GMT 23 Feb 81

[Text] Brasilia, 22 Feb (AFP)--The four guarantor countries of the 1942 peace protocol between Peru and Ecuador today made a strong appeal to the Ecuadorean and Peruvian Governments to abide by the cease-fire they agreed to on 2 February.

This information was made public by Itamaraty after a meeting of the representatives of Argentina, Brazil, Chile and the United States, which are the guarantors of the peace protocol. It was also revealed that a request was made to the Ecuadorean and Peruvian Governments to refrain from any unilateral action or declaration that might jeopardize the cease-fire agreed on by the two countries.

Defense Council Evaluation

PY230230 Paris AFP in Spanish 0148 GMT 23 Feb 81

[Text] Lima, 22 Feb (AFP)--High-ranking Peruvian civilian and military officials are evaluating here tonight the future of their country's relations with Ecuador at a meeting of the National Defense Council held at Government Palace. In the meantime, there is calm on the border between the two countries.

Peruvian Foreign Minister Javier Arias Stella has stated that his country's position was defined and determined in the official communique issued last night, in which it was stated that further acts of provocation against Peru will be considered acts of war and will force Peru to take the appropriate actions in Ecuadorean territory.

Regarding an eventual breaking of relations with Ecuador due to the downing of a Peruvain helicopter by Ecuadorean troops last Friday--when I died and 12 of the 19 occupants of the helicopter were injured--the foreign minister said that that issue was doing to be discussed tonight.

Authoritative Foreign Ministry sources believe it is too soon to talk about a complete severing of diplomatic relations with Ecuador.

Vice Adm Juan Egusquiza, president of the Joint Armed Forces Command, has reported that the militlary observers of the four guarantor countries of the Rio de Janeiro Protocol--Brazil, Argentina, Chile and the United States--are not in the Condor Mountain region. He said they could visit the area in the next few days.

This was confirmed by Air Force Commander Lt Gen Luis Arias Graziani, who added that air force personnel are in a state of alert along the 1,600 km border with Ecuador.

Gen Humberto Catter, director of the Civil Guard, has stated that the guarantor countries will determine who is telling the truth about last Friday's incident because they are aware of the facts and know that Peru has never violated Ecuadorean territory.

Gen Julio Estrada, director of the Republican Guard, has said that last night's communique was the last opportunity given to Ecuador.

U.S. OFFICIALS DISCUSS COMMUNISTS' EL SALVADOR ROLE

PA211929 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0254 GMT 21 Feb 81

[Text] Caracas, 20 Feb (EFE)--As Salvadoran Justice Minister Mario Antonio Solano said here today that his country is the victim of "true extracontinental aggression," news reports affirmed that a U.S. "superspy" stopped over in Caracas to show the Venezuelan authorities that the communists are intervening in that Central American country.

Solano, who arrived here today to represent his country at the conference on extradition sponsored by the OAS, said it is very possible El Salvador may resort to that inter-American organization under the mutual assistance treaty.

"The inter-American countries must be in solidarity with us in the face of extracontinental aggression," Solano added.

The statement by the Salvadoran minister coincided with the "mysterious" visit which, according to newspaper sources, was made here by Gen Vernon D. Walters, former CIA deputy director, commissioned by Reagan to reveal Washington's policy on El Salvador to some Latin American governments.

General Walters, these same sources said, arrived from Mexico after meeting with President Luis Herrera Campins, on his way to Brazil. [as received]

The mysterious visit by the former CIA deputy director took place the day after U.S. Ambassador William Luers claimed to have documents that revealed "communist intervention" in El Salvador. Sources close to the Herrera Campins administration said they knew nothing about the visit, but they did not deny it either.

DIARIO DE CARACAS today notes that Walters arrived in this capital and, quoting "reliable" sources, said Ambassador Luers did meet with Herrera Campins "accompanied by two other gentlemen." According to the paper, Walters had come to inform the Venezuelan Government about "his country's position concerning the Salvadoran situation."

Meanwhile, the Venezuelan ambassador to the OAS, Hilarion Cardozo, today said his country has no evidence that the Salvadoran guerrilla arms are coming from communist countries.

Ambassador Luers on Wednesday told the Venezuelan papers that he had documents captured in San Salvador proving the communists are helping the guerrillas in that country. He said he also had photos of the weapons and their serial numbers.

"Those weapons," the ambassador added, "were seized in Vietnam when we left there and were brought to El Salvador by someone."

AMBASSADOR TO OAS UNEASY OVER REAGAN'S POLICY

PA210400 Caracas Radio Continente Network in Spanish 2100 GMT 20 Feb 81

[Text] Hilarion Cardoso, Venezuelan ambassador to the OAS, has clearly expressed his government's uneasiness over President Ronald Reagan's delay in defining a policy for Latin America. Cardoso also accused the U.S. government of trying to get Latin America involved in the conflict situation it has with the socialist bloc.

On the other hand, he had words of praise for the way the Carter administration dealt with Latin America. He referred to the implementation of the policy based on the respect for human rights, the reaffirmation of friendship and the efforts that were made to harmonize the policies of the United States with those of Latin America.

Cardoso complained that up to this moment the U.S. Government had not named the persons who will be in charge of Latin American affairs.

JESUS FARIA HOLDS MOSCOW PRESS CONFERENCE

For Soviet coverage of a press conference held by Jesus Faria, general secretary of the Venezuelan Communist Party, and other activities of the Venezuelan delegation participating in the 26th CPSU Congress in Moscow, see the 20 February 26th CPSU Congress section of the Soviet Union DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

40 PEASANTS INVOLVED IN EMBASSY OCCUPATIONS FREED

PA212340 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0316 GMT 21 Feb 81

[Text] Mexico City, 20 Feb (EFE)--The Mexican authorities today released 40 "peasants" who participated in Wednesday's occupation of the Indian and Guatemalan Embassies.

The attorney general's office reported that the people who were released had been brought to Mexico City from the town of Juchitan, Oaxaca, without "even knowing what they were going to do."

It added that 23 other persons who participated in the occupation of the embassies are being investigated to decide whether they will be prosecuted for several crimes.

The 73 [number as received] people who said they were members of the Isthmian Labor, Peasant and Student Coalition (COCEI) and residents of Juchitan, "peacefully" occupied the embassies "to demand respect for the Juchitan people's wishes" and the release of former soldier Leopoldo Degyves.

The diplomatic personnel of the two embassies asked the police to intervene to evict the COCEI militants.

NICARAGUAN MINISTER DENIES INVOLVEMENT IN SALVADOR

FL211506 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0305 GMT 21 Feb 81

[By Enrique Alvarez Manilla]

[Text] Mexico City, 20 Feb (NOTIMEX)--Nicaraguan Minister of Agricultural Development Jaime Wheelock has denounced the pressures and threats on the Nicaraguan Government and reaffirmed the principle of nonintervention. He indicated that the United States wants to blackmail Nicaragua financially and with food in a truly brutal manner when it is the United States that is intervening in Salvadoran affairs.

Comdr Jaime Wheelock, member of the junta of the Government of Reconstruction of Nicaragua, tonight held a press conference at the end of an audience which President Jose Lopez Portillo granted at the Los Pinos residence to the delegation headed by Wheelock.

The member of the Nicaraguan Government reported that the delegation informed the Mexican president of the international political situation regarding Nicaragua and of the pressures and threats to which Nicaragua has responded with maturity because it has been accused of involvement in the Salvadoran conflict.

He asserted categorically that Nicaragua wants to contribute intensely to attain a climate of stability and peace in Central America and that Nicaragua reaffirms its adherence to the principle of noninterference in the El Salvador conflict.

Regarding Nicaragua's relations with the United States, he said the U.S. Government is using financial pressure by suspending credits, economic assistance and the supply of wheat which it had agreed to provide.

Wheelock said: We have said that it is a case of blackmail with foodstuffs against a country that is seeking to solve its underdevelopment problems.

The Nicaraguan agricultural development minister said this does not mean that the Nicaraguan revolution fails to consider the need to maintain relations of respect and dignity with the people and government of the United States from which it expects that it will examine Nicaragua's position with regard to the conflict in El Salvador because the accusations are unfounded.

He added that Nicaraguan territory has been used to (?send) arms to El Salvador but it has been without the knowledge of the government. Other states are the ones that are sending large quantities of military equipment to strengthen one of the positions. [as received]

He charged that the United States is one of these countries and its pressure on Nicaragua is exaggerated and unfounded since what the United States is doing is covering up a position that is increasingly interventionist in El Salvador.

Wheelock also reported that the purpose of the Nicaraguan delegation's trip to Mexico was to discuss various economic matters that are developing between the two countries.

To this end, he added, the delegation has met with Secretary of Finance David Ibarra, Secretary of Commerce Jorge de la Vega and Secretary of Foreign Relations Jorge Castaneda.

VENEZUELA MINISTER STOPS OVER EN ROUTE TO CHINA

PA221817 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0318 GMT 22 Feb 81

[Text] Mexico City, 21 Feb (EFE)--Venezuelan Foreign Minister Jose Alberto Zambrano Velasco stopped over here today for 4 hours and met with his Mexican counterpart, Jorge Castaneda.

In a statement to newsmen Zambrano Velasco stated that he discussed with Castaneda the shaping of an overall Latin American foreign policy strategy.

But he noted that it did not involve acting en bloc, "but to orient fundamental views with realism and in keeping with the situation of each country amid the fast pace of events and tensions which characterize the current moment."

He added that the idea is to take firmly a new path which "will take us to presenting our own face before the international community."

He also said he discussed with Castaneda the support Venezuela is giving to the North-South dialogue, a meeting which will be held this coming June in Mexico.

The Venezuelan foreign minister left for Los Angeles, California, to travel on to Beijing.

GEN WALTERS' VISITS PART OF U.S. 'OFFENSIVE'

PA202335 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2009 GMT 20 Feb 81

[Text] Mexico City, 20 Feb (EFE)--A columnist of the daily EXCELSIOR today reported that a U.S. "superspy" has visited Mexico to present "alleged evidence" of Cuban cooperation with the insurgents of El Salvador.

Manuel Buendia, one of Mexico's most influential newsmen, has noted in his "Red Privada" column that Gen Vernon Walters, former CIA deputy director, was in Mexico on Wednesday.

According to Buendia, Walters came to Mexico "to show officials of the Mexican Government alleged evidence that Cuba is supporting the insurgents in El Salvador with arms."

The "superspy," as Buendia characterized the former CIA deputy director, has already gone to Venezuela and will go to Brazil later. In those two countries, according to Buendia, Walters will continue "the U.S. political offensive against the people of El Salvador, Nicaragua and Cuba."

According to Buendia, international observers see the U.S. "political offensive" as an omen of a military intervention in Salvadoran territory.

Manuel Buendia states in his column that the U.S. action is also aimed at "destroying" the prestige of members of the cabinet of Mexican President Jose Lopez Portillo who are seen by the CIA as "an obstacle to its immediate plans."

The columnist notes that those officials, who are not identified, have been characterized as procommunists and that some Mexican news media commentators "are being urged to spread this idea."

Buendia notes that some "important U.S. newspapers have received indications that they should tell their correspondents in Mexico about the suitability of casting doubt over any information coming from those officials."

Buendia added that the close ties between Walters and the CIA, as well as his mission in Mexico, Venezuela and Brazil, supposedly represent the rise of the "superspy" who plays the role of a special envoy of Washington.

Buendia concludes by noting that the visit "also indicates clearly enough that the strengthening of the CIA in Mexico is a top priority of the political strategy of the new U.S. Government."

DE OTEYZA VISITS FRANCE, TALKS WITH OFFICIALS

For reportage on Secretary of Patrimony and Industrial Development Jose Andres de Oteyza's visit to Paris, including a report on the signing of a joint economic agreement, see the France section of the 23 February Western Europe DAILY REPORT.

CENTRAL AMERICAN CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS HOLD MEETING

PA222207 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0136 GMT 21 Feb 81

[By Ricardo Medina]

[Text] San Salvador, 20 Feb (ACAN-EFE)--The meetings of the Christian Democratic Organization of Central America [ODCCA] to study the political strategy in the isthmus have started behind closed doors and are almost unmentioned in San Salvador.

Some 25 representatives of El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, and Panama (the Costa Ricans had plane problems) are meeting behind closed doors in a hotel in this capital to analyze the situation of the countries experiencing conflict. Regarding this, one of these representatives briefly told ACAN-EFE that the situations in El Salvador, Guatemala and Nicaragua are being stressed and that Christian Democrats are "being attacked either by the extreme rightwing and the Marxists" from the opposition or by the established governments in these countries.

Delegations from El Salvador, Guatemala, Nicaragua and Panama and representatives of (Christian Democratic) political institutes of these countries plus Honduras are attending the meeting. In addition, Rene de Leon Scholoter, secretary general of the Christian Democratic World Union and Horacio Moabro, assistant secretary of the Christian Democratic Organization of Latin America, have also come to San Salvador for the meeting.

There are a total of 25 Christian Democratic leaders meeting in El Salvador who will only carry out one public act: an homage to Mario Zamora, murdered on 22 February 1980 in El Salvador. He was solicitor general for the poor (with the rank of minister) and member of the Salvadoran Christian Democratic Party [PDC].

One of those attending said: "A general view of Christian Democracy in all of Central America will result from this meeting. We are studying the situation country by country in order to reach points of agreement. Then, according to these points of agreement, we will implement the strategy of the party."

One of the members of the Salvadoran PDC said: "In Guatemala the Christian Democratic Party is being attacked by the extreme rightwing and in Nicaragua we are being attacked by the Marxists." The Salvadoran explained: "The ideological concept of Christian Democracy differs from the two extremes. We are a third path apart from the classical and obsolete ideas."

"Here in El Salvador, we are suffering social losses which are small compared with that of other revolutions but which we should not have to endure. Those responsible for these social losses are not the Christian Democrats but the extremes, the rightwing and the leftwing," the Salvadoran leader concluded and then immediately returned to the closed meeting.

The meetings will end on Sunday. Short trips to farms where the agrarian reform is being implemented and to towns to learn more about the country's situation are planned for tomorrow.

Jose Napoleon Duarte, president of the Salvadoran Government junta, appeared at the meeting late in the afternoon. However, he specified that he was attending as a member of the Salvadoran PDC and not as president of El Salvador.

COSTA RICA

REPORTAGE ON UNCERTAIN STATUS OF RADIO STATION

Carazo Interview

PA202135 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1730 GMT 20 Feb 81

[Interview with Costa Rican President Rodrigo Carazo by William Cespedes during the president's tour of an agricultural enterprise in Guapiles on 20 February--recorded]

[Excerpt] [Question] What can you tell us about the decision to temporarily cancel Radio Noticias del Continente's broadcasting license?

[Answer] When the incidents we are all familiar with occurred, I asked the specialized government organizations to determine what had to be done to close the station temporarily until the courts could hand down a ruling. The results of that study are contained in an agreement signed yesterday afternoon, Thursday. It was immediately submitted for publication, and you are welcome to see it at the Presidency of the Republic or at the Interior Ministry.

[Question] Does this mean that the station has to stop broadcasting immediately?

[Answer] As soon as the agreement is published, the station must suspend its broadcasts until the courts hand down a ruling. The courts will have the final word.

Station Communique

PA221301 San Jose Radio Noticias del Continente in Spanish 0225 GMT 22 Feb 81

[Station communique read by director Ana Lorena Cartin; no date given--live or recorded]

[Text] Press freedom is in serious danger in Costa Rica. The temporary suspension of Radio Noticias del Continente shows clearly the limits of freedom of the press in Costa Rica. While this freedom serves those who have economic, political and cultural power, it is a high-sounding motto used to hide the fact that it is being used to defend the interests of a group, sector or clique united around privileges and interests.

When, as is the case of Radio Noticias del Continente, freedom of the press is used to defend the nobliest causes such as culture, freedom, democracy and human rights, then it is closed, it is persecuted, its prestige is marred for no real, true or at least (?legal) cause or reason. This decision seeks to [words indistinct] closes a job site but attacks private property, that property so defended by those who are precisely most bitterly attacking the irreproachable, firm and worthy presence of Radio Noticias del Continente.

The incredible public admission that complete safety cannot be ensured either to the residents of Grecia or their property or to the property of the firm and its personnel won't stand up under the slightest analysis. The government has the constitutional mandate to do so and not by punishing the ones attacked. It has the money of Costa Ricans, the mandate of the law and the reign of force to impose order and safety wherever they are in jeopardy. Thus it would seem to be enough for a few paid mercenaries to tell lies and ruin reputations through the media and for other mercenaries to take to military, armed terrorism so that any firm attacked will be immediately closed to restore order and safety.

In the end, this is the way to materialize and endorse what the terrorists want. Thus the law is imposed by terror and not by reason. Thus it will be enough that, as in the case of Radio Noticias del Continente, some dictatorial governments, with their hired ad hoc agents, some commando groups of foreign mercenaries and some [words indistinct], will undertake a joint terrorist campaign so that any firm or medium that such dark individuals regard as unsuitable to their goals will be closed.

An unequivocal sign of this is that news dispatches from El Salvador, Guatemala, Chile, Bolivia, Paraguay, Uruguay and Argentina reflect the pleasure and glee of those de facto dictatorial governments at the closing of Radio Noticias del Continente. These symptoms show the essense of those measures, so alien to the sentiments and thinking of Costa Rica, as indicated by the polls in our hands.

It is a pity that they do not even dare cite the much-publicized police claim that weapons were found at Radio Noticias del Continente, that the police officers taken to court for illegal actions will not be suspended as a precaution, that the finding of a powerful bomb by officials directly subordinate to the highest executive levels will not be mentioned. Without reason or justice [words indistinct] the attacked, the firm damaged party is thus punished. Order and security are up to the government and it should ensure them to all Costa Ricans without trampling on other freedoms such as press freedom and property rights.

The executive branch is obligated to ensure security without leaving it in the hands of terrorists or mercenaries. The offended party should not be hushed or punished, but the offenders against the most cherished freedoms we have in Costa Rica should be persecuted and punished.

We will fight to the end with the means that the law, justice and reason make available to us. This sad chapter in Costa Rica's history won't be written without us. We are heartened by the enormous solidarity of Costa Ricans, the enormous number of messages we are receiving from people and our [word indistinct] and the solidarity voiced outside the country, which is ample, generous and fraternal, so ample and generous in fact that at the very instant our voice is hushed, our news services will begin to be transmitted on short and long wave by five colleague stations, three in Latin America and two in Western Europe, which have voluntarily (?formed) a great international network of solidarity and truth.

We will fight at all national and international forums. It is our duty as Costa Ricans to do so. It is our job to point to and prevent the military dictatorships of America from making decisions in Costa Rica, something that is entirely up to the Costa Ricans. Often we boast of our press freedom. We think the time has come to stop praising it and start defending it.

DEPUTY SECURITY MINISTER'S RESIGNATION ACCEPTED

PA202200 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 20 Feb 81

[Text] The resignation of Deputy Public Security Minister Alfredo Blanco Odio became effective yesterday afternoon when he presented a note to that effect to President Carazo.

It had been rumored for several days that Blanco Odio would resign, especially after Deputy Arnulfo Carmona Benavides was appointed to replace Public Security Minister Carlos Arguedas le Franc.

Almost immediately after the president read Blanco Odio's note, he sent him a letter accepting his resignation. The president's laconic reply said: This is to acknowledge receipt of your kind note dated yesterday in which you resign from your position of deputy public security minister. Upon accepting your resignation, I would like to express my appreciation for your collaboration with my administration.

Blanco Odio will leave the ministry the last day of this month. The main reason for his resignation is not to hinder the work of the new minister, Arnulfo Carmona, who takes office on 1 March.

The new minister must have complete confidence in his personnel. To allow Arnulfo Carmona to form his new team I have considered it necessary to present my resignation, Blanco Odio said.

CARAZO ASKS OAS FOR SOLUTION IN EL SALVADOR

PA210229 Paris AFP in Spanish 0156 GMT 21 Feb 81

[Text] San Jose, 20 Feb (AFP)--Costa Rican President Rodrigo Carazo today asked the OAS to find a solution to the conflict in El Salvador, sources from the presidential house confirmed here today.

The text of a telegram sent by Carazo to the OAS was read by a local station, but a presidential spokesman refused to give details of Carazo's message.

GUATEMALA

GOVERNMENT DENIES MAJANO KIDNAPPED IN COUNTRY

PA211659 Paris AFP in Spanish 1618 GMT 21 Feb 81

[Text] Guatemala City, 21 Feb (AFP)--The Guatemalan Government today denied again reports of the alleged kidnapping here of former Salvadoran junta member Col Adolfo Majano. The reports circulated Friday night in Central American news media. Military sources told AFP they knew nothing about Colonel Majano being in Guatemala and much less being arrested by security forces.

Colonel Majano's arrest was confirmed today in San Salvador by army officers, and despite their refusal to give any details, it was learned that he was arrested Friday afternoon in the Salvadoran capital. The first unofficial and confusing reports last night stated that Majano had been kidnapped in Guatemala along with seven other persons, two of whom had been wounded.

The Guatemalan Government spokesman also reported that Guatemala is firm in its purpose of nonintervention in the internal affairs of other countries, regarding the accusations about alleged military assistance to the Salvadoran junta on the part of Gen Romeo Lucas Garcia's government.

DEMOCRATIC FRONT ACCUSES U.S. OF INTERVENTION

PA210426 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 20 Feb 81

[Text] The Democratic Front Against Repression in Guatemala charged in Washington D.C. that the United States is using the argument of foreign intervention to justify its intervention in Central America, and that by using the pretext of fighting communist influence it is meddling in the internal affairs of the countries of the region.

Miguel Angel Albizure, a leader of the Democratic Front, an organization formed by more than 100 political, workers and social organizations of Guatemala, accused the United States of using those false arguments in order to maintain its domination of Central America and to continue exploiting the region's natural resources. According to Albizure, the repression in Guatemala has taken on genocidal proportions. He said that just last week, some 60 bodies with signs of being tortured were found in different parts of the country. He added that in 1980, more than 3,000 political and labor leaders, priests, students, teachers and newsmen were slain by the Guatemalan repressive forces, not to mention some 500 persons who are reported missing.

ORPA CLAIMS 72 SOLDIERS KILLED IN RECENT ACTIONS

PA222140 Paris AFP in Spanish 1903 GMT 22 Feb 81

[Text] Guatemala City, 22 Feb (AFP)--The Armed People's Revolutionary Organization (ORPA) announced today that it inflicted 72 casualties on the army in several attacks staged in the past few days.

ORPA reported two alleged attacks on military bases and four ambushes on army patrols in the western region of the country, principally in the departments of San Marcos and Quezaltenango. It noted that only two of its own militants were killed in the operations.

Military sources have said the announcement is untrue, explaining that when there are clashes, they are reported in detail to the press with the number of casualties inflicted on the army.

There have been several attacks during the past week on farms in the southern coastal area of the country where four ranch owners and several foremen were killed. It has also been reported that heavy losses were suffered as a result of sabotage against the installations of these farms. The government, through its spokesman Carlos Toledo, voiced concern over the situation and its economic repercussions.

Purported guerrillas staged bomb attacks Saturday night against the San Juan Comolapa police headquarters in Chimaltenango in the western part of the capital, but there were no casualties.

HONDURAS

NEW TERRORIST GROUP TAKES RESPONSIBILITY FOR BOMBS

PA211801 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1538 GMT 21 Feb 81

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 21 Feb (ACAN-EFE)--Two powerful homemade time bombs exploded Friday night at the Honduran Banana Corporation (Cohbana) and the Polymer Plastics Company here.

Honduran radio stations today reported that a group called the Martyrs of La Talanquera [Martires de la Talanquera] claimed reponsibility for the action. The stations reported that the terrorists demanded justice in the case of "Isletas."

"Isletas" is an associative peasant enterprise involved in growing and marketing bananas in Colon Department on the Atlantic coast. It is currently under military control and intervened by the government.

Cohbana provides technical and financial advice to the associative enterprise, and part of the peasants' economic problems are blamed on it. Polymer is one of the companies linked to the U.S. Standard Fruit Company in northern Honduras, which has lent vehicles for the military intervention. According to the peasants, "It is trying to destroy the associative enterprise."

La Talanquera is in the mideastern department of Olancho, where peasants and an army sergeant were killed in 1972 while squatters were being evicted from private property.

Police today said the bomb at Cohbana damaged only the installations and alarmed the personnel.

The Polymer bomb slightly wounded watchman Gabriel Diaz, who saw a suspicious package and kicked it, thus setting the bomb off. Another bomb was found at Polymer but was deactivated in time.

Police said they searched unsuccessfully for another bomb at the National Agrarian Institute (INA). The INA implements the agrarian reform in Honduras and is administering the Isletas enterprise.

The leftist Morazanist Front for the Liberation of Honduras [FMLH], the People's Revolutionary Union (URP) and the Martyrs of La Talanquera commands operate in Honduras. The first two groups appeared last year amid great publicity, and the Martyrs of La Talanquera have appeared now. The FMLH occupied the metropolitan cathedral and the Red Cross headquarters in Tegucigalpa and promoted violence. The URP occupied the OAS office in Honduras, held hostages for 48 hours and staged a hunger strike.

CUBAN, USSR RADIOS REPORTEDLY ATTACK GOVERNMENT

PA201954 Tegucigalpa Radio America in Spanish 1145 GMT 20 Feb 81

[Text] The communist regimes of Cuba and the USSR through their international radio broadcasts have started an offensive against the Honduran Government. According to private citizen Bayardo Rodriguez, in view of the Honduran protest Monday over military aggressions by Sandinist elements in Guasaole jurisdiction, on the Nicaraguan border, the Cuban radio was heard shortly after midnight last night reporting that the Honduran tyranny had attacked the Nicaraguan people and that although the Nicaraguan people wanted peace and coexistence between the two countries, it also demanded respect for its rights. The radio added that Honduran patrols had entered Nicraguan territory but were promptly repelled by the Sandinist army and the popular forces. The report was later repeated by Radio Sandino of Nicargua.

This indicates a perfectly orchestrated international radio campaign to discredit Honduras. In other words, while we are being attacked directly and physically, these communist radio stations are carrying out a propaganda campaign at the international level to discredit us. It is significant that now that the pressure in El Salvador has begun to subside, these stations are playing protest songs praising Father Camilo Torres and the Colombian M-19 guerrillas.

The stations mentioned by Rodriguez were Radio Havana Cuba, Radio Moscow and Radio Peace and Progress, also of Moscow. Rodriguez said he knows the frequencies of these stations and is going to try to record the broadcasts and send them to this station.

EL SALVADOR

DUARTE WILLING TO TALK PEACE; NOT GOING TO EUROPE

PA230310 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0230 GMT 23 Feb 81

[Text] San Salvador, 22 Feb (LATIN)--President Jose Napoleon Duarte today said he is willing to meet with opposition leaders anywhere to hold talks on ending the conflict in El Salvador.

Duarte made the statement in reply to information received from Bonn that diplomatic efforts were underway for a meeting between him and Guillermo Ungo, leader of the Revolutionary Democratic Front (FDR), which groups the leftist guerrillas opposed to the governing junta.

"I personally welcome any plan that could bring peace to our suffering country...The junta has always been and will always be open to dialogue," Duarte told this news agency. The president added, however, that he had canceled his plans to travel to the FRG and Belgium next month to meet with his political colleagues of the Christian democracy. Duarte did not give the reasons for his change of plans.

REPORTAGE ON MAJANO'S ARREST IN SAN SALVADOR

PA211241 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0521 GMT 21 Feb 81

[Text] San Salvador, 21 Feb (LATIN)--Col Adolfo Arnoldo Majano, former dissident member of the civilian-military government junta and apparent leader of a sector of young officers of the Salvadoran Army, has been arrested here by armed forces units, it was reported officially last night.

Majano had been dismissed from the government junta on 22 November when the junta that overthrew the constitutional government of President Carlos Humberto Romero in October 1979 overcame one of the worst crises it ever faced.

According to army spokesmen, who asked not to be identified, Majano was arrested yesterday by a patrol in a suburb of this capital. The official report did not give any more details. Majano was considered by observers as the most liberal of the members of the civilian-military junta that overthrew President Romero.

Government Communique

PA211813 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1736 GMT 21 Feb 81

[Text] San Salvador, 21 Feb (ACAN-EFE)--Col Adolfo Arnoldo Majano has been arrested and turned over to military justice for disobeying an order to go to Spain as military attache, the Information Secretariat of the Presidency has announced. The full text of the official communique reads:

"Col Adolfo Arnoldo Majano, former member of the revolutionary government junta, has been arrested and is at the disposition of the Salvadoran Armed Forces. Colonel Majano disobeyed an order transferring him to Madrid (Spain) as the military attache, and his whereabouts have since remained unknown. According to an earlier announcement, Colonel Majano was relieved from duty and therefore is under the jurisdiction of the armed forces."

A spokesman for the Information Secretariat told ACAN-EFE that he believed Majano had been arrested Friday afternoon, although he could not expand further because Colonel Majano is under the custody of the armed forces. Jose Napoleon Duarte, president of the Salvadoran revolutionary government junta, told ACAN-EFE this morning that Majano is on active service in the army and consequently will be court-martialed.

Radio Venceremos Report

PA221550 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 1200 GMT 22 Feb 81

[Text] News agencies today reported the arrest of Col Adolfo Arnoldo Majano, recognized as an honest and fair man among the armed forces and people of El Salvador. He (?engineered) the 15 October takeover as a solution, an outlet for the political and economic crisis afflicting our nation.

Despite the good intentions of some young patriotic officers, this movement headed by Majano was doomed to fail because it did not have the people's support. We must recall that Colonel Majano became a headache to the assassin Colonels Gutierrez and Garcia because he never obeyed the orders to kill and torture issued by the most reactionary sectors of the army and by their paramilitary death squads, which just before Majano left the government and at the orders of Colonels Gutierrez and Garcia, unsuccessfully placed 14 sticks of dyanmite to kill him. Majano's moderate attitude of respect for the armed forces only brought about his expulsion from the government junta.

Colonel Majano's arrest by the genocidal Christian Democratic government under the pretext of an alleged defiance of an order clearly has political overtones.

Colonel Majano--and not only all the members of the army but also the people in general know--has been the only member of the government junta unanimously approved by the nation's garrisons. Colonel Majano has been the officer with the highest moral authority because of his integrity, honesty and irrefutable nationalist conduct. Colonel Majano is a humble officer, a simple man who has dedicated his professional career to serving the people and the armed forces.

These virtues and characteristics, without his knowing it, made him the leader of his comrades in arms, and he enjoys the respect and love of the Salvadoran people. The army's most honest and patriotic sector, the young officers, chose him as their representative. That is why his arrest seeks, among other objectives, to demoralize this sector. Colonel Majano always held to an institutionalist position and cannot be charged with being a member of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN] because this is not true.

The people of El Salvador are asking: Why arrest an officer whose history does not contain anything linking him to theft, corruption or crime? Why arrest an officer who, rather than shedding blood within the institution, preferred to withdraw from it when he was accused of being a communist by several traitors? The people of El Salvador demand the immediate release of Colonel Majano. Or can things remain as they are, without a reaction by his comrades in arms to the arrest of an honest man, (?faithful) man everyone knows?

As if this were not enough, let us recall that unfair persons like D'Aubuisson were released, even when all the evidence was against them as conspirators within the institution, for participating in the sadly remembered plan to kill martyr archbishop Msgr Oscar Arnulfo Romero.

The people of El Salvador are indignant in the fact of this trampling on the integrity of Colonel Majano and demand his immediate release. In forthcoming broadcasts, Radio Venceremos, the guerrilla voice of the FMLN, will present a complete report on the arrest of Colonel Majano, with members of the young officers' wing to which he belongs.

The arrest of Colonel Majano shows the fear and desperation of the group of genocidal colonels in power within a divided army, an army which, although it has within its ranks many of the people's fiercest killers, also has honest and patriotic men like Colonel Majano. To them, we recall that they have a dignified place along with the people to fight until a democratic and revolutionary El Salvador is built.

CHAVEZ MEETS ENVOYS TO U.S., CENTRAL AMERICA

PA201630 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1806 GMT 19 Feb 81

[Text] San Salvador, 19 Feb (ACAN-EFE)--Salvadoran Foreign Minister Fidel Chavez Mena has called the Salvadoran ambassadors to Central America and the United States back for consultations, Foreign Ministry spokesmen announced here today.

The diplomats are meeting in a San Salvador hotel "to exchange views on how to improve communications between the Foreign Ministry and the embassies." However, it is possible that they are also discussing problems created at the diplomatic level by the Revolutionary Democratic Front [FDR] in El Salvador supporting the guerrillas and raising charges several times against the Salvadoran Government junta. Only 2 weeks ago, Minister Chavez Mena announced that some changes would be made at the Salvadoran embassies in Latin America and Europe, although he did not give any details.

Around mid-January, days after the leftists launched the "general offensive," Salvadoran Ambassador to Nicaragua Roberto Castellanos Figueroa resigned to "join the guerrillas," as he said during a news conference. Although both the diplomatic representation of El Salvador in Nicaragua as well as the Nicaraguan representation in El Salvador have been withdrawn, neither of the two governments has expressed a wish to break diplomatic relations despite the fact that the revolutionary government junta of El Salvador has accused the Nicaraguan Government of collaborating with the guerrillas.

ARRESTED PILOT REPORTS ON ARMS SUPPLY OPERATION

PA210042 San Salvador Domestic Service in Spanish 1715 GMT 20 Feb 81

["Second deposition" by Costa Rican pilot Julio Santiago Romero Talavera, who is accused of entering El Salvador for subversive purposes, presented by the Salvadoran Armed Forces; date and place not given--live or recorded]

[Text] [Question] Mr Romero Talavera, I would like you to tell me your correct name.

Answer] Julio Santiago Romero Talavera.

[Question] Your age?

[Answer] 31.

[Question] Nationality?

[Answer] Costa Rican.

[Question] Profession?

[Answer] Aviation pilot.

[Question] Where is your residence?

[Answer] My latest residence, for working reasons, was Managua, Nicaragua, Las Colinas neighborhood, No 107.

[Question] How long have you been residing in Managua, Nicaragua?

[Answer] 1 year.

[Question] What was your residence before that?

[Answer] I have lived in San Jose, Costa Rica, all my life.

[Question] What specific address in San Jose, Costa Rica?

[Answer] In La Favorita neighborhood, San Jose, Costa Rica.

[Question] Would you please give me the date and place of your birth.

[Answer] I was born in Granada, Nicaragua on 25 May 1949. My family, or rather I, am of Nicaraguan ancestry.

[Question] Mr Romero Talavera, when did you land on the airstrip on La Sabana estate?

[Answer] On 25 January of this year at 0420.

[Question] What was your mission?

[Answer] My mission was to rescue two pilots who had previously been on a mission to supply war materiel to the Salvadoran guerrillas and who, after completing their mission, crashed for unknown reasons at the time of takeoff and were injured in the accident and suffered burns almost all over their bodies.

[Question] Who owned the airplane that you were flying?

[Answer] It was owned by Mr Fernando Carrasco.

[Question] What was the mission of the plane which suffered the accident?

[Answer] As I said before, the airplane was on a mission to supply war materiel to the Salvadoran guerrillas.

[Question] From what airport did you take off on 25 January?

[Answer] I took off from the Augusto Cesar Sandino International Airport at Managua, Nicaragua.

[Question] Who contracted you?

[Answer] Fernando Carrasco.

[Question] For whom does Mr Fernando Carrasco work?

[Answer] I want to give a brief biography of Fernando Carrasco, including his arrival in Costa Rica some 4 or 5 years ago and his establishment of an air transport cargo concern. He was at that time involved in the supplying of war materiel to the Nicaraguan guerrillas through his direct connections with the Nicaraguan Sandinist Front. Later, he operated as an aviation businessman in Nicaragua and lately he has told me and other companeros that he is the direct link in the clandestine supply of weapons to El Salvador.

[Question] What is Mr Carrasco's true nationality?

[Answer] Mr Carrasco is a South American, presumably a Chilean, who has been nationalized as a Costa Rican.

[Question] How much is given to a pilot for taking weapons to El Salvador?

[Answer] The sum is approximately $3,000 for small planes. The sum is greater depending on the equipment used, that is, if it is a bigger airplane.

[Question] Who is directly in charge of making the payments?

[Answer] Fernando Carrasco.

[Question] What other trips have you made to El Salvador?

[Answer] There is this trip that has brought me here under these circumstances. I have already said it was a rescue trip. However, there was another trip, made previously, more or less on 13 January. This was in a Nicaraguan Air Force plane on a Nicaraguan Air Force mission which was definitely related to the Salvadoran guerrillas since--I wish to expand this explanation--I was to check the physical conditions of the airship at Malpaisillo which was being improved with the installation of lights and other equipment for night operations. I was also to check the length of the airstrip and the weight for [word indistinct] and in flight. There were also technicians on board to check on communications.

[Question] What airstrip did you use to land here in El Salvador?

[Answer] I do not know the name, but it is located in the sector known as La Sabana.

[Question] Could you show me the location on the map according to what you were shown when you made that trip?

[Answer] Yes, sir. A map obtained by the same Mr Carrasco, who was on the plane, showed an area circled here on the Lemra River. Here we have three airstrips. It was on this strip here, the name of which is unknown to me, that I landed. A Salvadoran Air Force jet intercepted us, dropping a bomb a few meters from the plane. Since the airplance that I brought was destroyed, I was taken to an estate home called La Sabana, which is the one I am pointing to here.

Also on the same map, another airstrip was indicated on the other side of the Lempa River, as I am showing you now.

[Question] Who authorized the [word indistinct] of this trip?

[Answer] All movements controlled by Fernando Carrasco, as well as all military or civilian aviation operations in Nicaraguan territory must be authorized by the Nicaraguan Air Force, whose commander is Raul Veneiro.

[Question] Can you tell us more about Raul Veneiro, his responsibilities and official occupation within any government organization? What can you tell us?

[Answer] I do not know much about the military structure, but I believe that the post already mentioned, that of commander of the air force, is a very important one.

[Question] When you made this trip that you mentioned, who accompanied you?

[Answer] Mr Fernando Carrasco.

[Question] What other trips have you made to El Salvador?

[Answer] Another trip which links me directly to this matter is one that I made approximately on 13 January, also of this year, in a Nicaraguan Air Force plane, with members and officers of the Nicaraguan Army, among whom I can mention Pepe Trejos, who is a national security official and the chief of the Nicaraguan air traffic control, and three other officers who are specialists in radio communications. This mission was being carried out for the following purposes: To review the physical installations of the Malpaisillo airport with an eye to equipping it for night operations. This includes takeoff lights, landing lights, checking the distance from the hangars to the center of the airstrip and later, in flight, checking radio communications. The aircraft carried a radio exactly like the one on land in Carrasco's hangar at Malpaisillo airport. Another radio like it was seized by the Salvadoran Army from La Sabana estate.

[Question] What airstrip did you use to leave Nicaragua for El Salvador?

[Answer] The Sandino International Airport in Managua, Nicaragua.

[Question] What time did you take off?

[Answer] At approximately 0300.

[Question] And your return?

[Answer] We did not return.

[Question] No, the previous trip that you mentioned having made.

[Answer] That trip was made at night. It was supposed to be earlier, but we were delayed and we did not arrive at Malpaisillo airport until 2200. We took off at approximately 2400. There were several delays on land, instructions that had to be given on land which took approximately 1 and 1/2 hours.

[Question] Who owned the airplane in which that operation was carried out?

[Answer] It was a Nicaraguan Air Force plane.

[Question] Who authorized this trip?

[Answer] As I said previously, every operation of this type has to be authorized by the headquarters of the Nicaraguan Air Force, whose commander is Raul Veneiro.

[Question] On Mr Raul Veneiro, can you tell us anything more about his activities within Nicaraguan organizations?

[Answer] His specific functions, as far as I know, are those of a very highly placed official, since he is commander of the air force, a post of great responsibility within the Nicaraguan Armed Forces.

[Question] What can you tell us about Pepe Trejos?

[Answer] Mr Pepe Trejos is a Costa Rican. He is of Costa Rican origin, and has now been nationalized as a Nicaraguan citizen. He is a veteran of the Nicaraguan war and a highly placed person, a national security official and chief of Nicaraguan air traffic control.

[Question] What other airstrips are used to support the Salvadoran guerrillas?

[Answer] Specifically, we have spoken of Malpaisillo. However, there are other airstrips, such as Montelimar which is located close to the Pacific coast of Nicaragua, Leon airport in the west and the international airport in Managua, the Augusto Cesar Sandino Airport, which is the one I used for my rescue trip.

[Question] Who in Nicaragua is in charge of sending the weapons to the Salvadoran guerrillas?

[Answer] Fernando Carrasco.

[Question] Are there any other persons having dealings with Carrasco whose name you can give?

[Answer] I knew two other persons whose names, or aliases, are Roberto and Rafael. They work with Carrasco. I saw one of them at the international airport and I also saw one of them at Malpaisillo. However, it is widely rumored that Carrasco's main contacts are with Commander Tomas Borge, before and after the Nicaraguan war. During these operations, his contacts were with Air Force Commander Raul Veneiro.

[Question] Who else cooperates in this movement to support the Salvadoran guerrillas; that is, what other organizations or persons do you know of?

[Answer] Well, as far as I could see as a pilot, there were those Costa Ricans already mentioned, as well as two or three officers of the Nicaraguan Air Force.

[Question] Where do the armaments that reach Nicaragua come from?

[Answer] We have frequently seen Cuban aircraft: Russian-built Antonov-18's. These aircraft fly directly from Cuba to Managua, Nicaragua. They land at the Sandino International Airport and go directly to the military Sandinist Air Force ramp where they are received by air force officers, as we said, Commander Raul Veneiro, and by other ranking officials of the army and government.

NICARAGUAN 'MERCENARY' SPEAKS OF AID TO GUERRILLAS

PA220358 San Salvador Domestic Service in Spanish 1319 GMT 21 Feb 81

[Armed forces presentation of statement by (Orlando Tendersier), a Nicaraguan "mercenary"]

[Excerpts] The armed forces present to the people a Nicaraguan Sandinist. He is (Orlando Tendersier) who spoke at length about his activities and objectives, making it evident that mercenaries are being sent from abroad and that these mercenaries are made to believe that the situation here is different from what it actually is.

The young mercenary has said that he came here to indoctrinate Salvadorans and that what he had been told about the army is completely different from what it is, since he has been able to verify that ours is a highly professional army.

Let us listen to the statement made by the Sandinist. This statement once again makes it evident that there is foreign intervention in Salvadoran matters.

[Begin recording] My name is (Orlando Tendensier). I am 18 years old and I was born in Masaya on 15 December 1962. [Words indistinct] I am Catholic, Sandinist, and moderately socialist. I entered the university to study for the School of Architecture of the National Autonomous University of Nicaragua. I have been a member of the Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN] since February 1978. My friends in the Sandinist Front are Commander (Hidalgo Robelo Che), who is responsible for logistics in the 6th Military Region, and officer (Elis Mayorga Gutierrez). I am also a friend [words indistinct] in charge of the public relations office of the FSLN. There is also Eden Pastora; Omar Lacayo, commander of the western front; guerrilla Commander Dora Maria Tellez; Commander Dos; Hilario Sanchez, guerrilla commander of the 6th Military Region; Commander Esteban Escobar, instructor in the heavy artillery school in Montelimar; and Ivan Garcia, chief of the [word indistinct] labor union, who is also my friend.

I also have foreign friends: Carlos Nunez Cienfuegos, instructor and member of the FSLN Tactical Command; a Cuban whose last name is (Montserrat) and who is an instructor in the [word indistinct] Tejada officers' school in [words indistinct], and Juan Espinoza Escalante and Orlando [words indistinct], who are Nicaraguans.

In Nicaragua, on 30 November 1979, I joined 40 companeros of the FSLN to form part of the Committee of Solidarity with the Salvadoran people and to take classes on ideological and political matters involving the social situation of the Salvadoran people.

We were ideologically instructed for 5 months and also received information. [Words indistinct] taken from that committee to join the ranks of the Salvadoran guerrillas.

This committee was composed of 500 FSLN militants who had some kind of military training. This personnel was selected on the basis of the needs of each organization of Nicaragua [words indistinct] and we would be sent to any of the organizations that were [words indistinct] the Armed Forces of the National Resistance because they needed an official infantry instructor.

Then, on 25 March I [words indistinct] to announce the routes, the illegal routes to El Salvador. He also told me the [words indistinct] the National University of El Salvador, in the law school [words indistinct] the contact, which would be the bringing of documents that included a military identification card, a general identification card, a birth certificate and a document certifying my membership in the FSLN.

Through this contact I reached the University of El Salvador and I spoke directly with Nacho who examined the documents and told me that he was going to verify them. Days went by.

Once my nationality was confirmed, I was told that I should prepare a project for an infantry school which would prepare personnel who are not yet ready for the guerrillas, and that then I should start the school. We set up the school in the university extension in front of the university. There was an average of 200 students weekly and the training went on for 8 weeks.

This school opened around 25 April and [words indistinct]. After the school was seized, I was transferred to the northern nunction [Troncal], on km 8, at a residence [words indistinct] where for 8 days I coordinated with my immediate chief [words indistinct] many people. Later, I was transferred to [words indistinct] where I was the roommate of a Mexican until the end of December. The Mexican's name is Pedro Jorge [words indistinct].

At the beginning of January I was told that my mission was to reorganize and coordinate the La Libertad and La Paz camps in the south central front. This camp was restructured since there was a bad [words indistinct] formation, and I did this until the armed forces got there and destroyed the camp.

Regarding the aid that Nicaragua provides the Salvadoran guerrillas, we could say that it is complete and direct since it comes in the three forms of aid that can be given: logistic materiel, personnel and the political rearguard.

First, concerning personnel, the FLSN sends specialists to support and to structure the commands in the Salvadoran guerrilla front. In my specific case, (?I have been) sent approximately 500 FSLN companeros with adequate training to train the Salvadoran guerrillas. In my case, I have training in infantry, light artillery, general infantry, medium artillery and commando operations which I received in the mountains of Nicaragua. We were trained by foreign instructors who included people from Angola, Argentina, Panama, Cuba and so forth.

The FSLN prepares, through the Committee of Solidarity, [words indistinct]. The Nicaraguan Government [words indistinct] the Sandinist Peoples Army [EPS] there, mass organizations such as labor unions, students associations, youth groups, indirect support for the guerrilla in El Salvador.

Regarding the logistical support that the Salvadoran people receive through Nicaragua, [words indistinct] the Salvadoran people. These [words indistinct] are in the bunker, in the German Pomares complex. These are supplies of the Salvadoran guerrilla disguised as supplies of the EPS.

They also receive arms and Nicaragua has semi-legal airfields for the takeoff of planes carrying arms for El Salvador. There are airfields in Leon cotton fields and others [words indistinct] airfields for twin-engined planes [words indistinct] that go to El Salvador to leave logistical materiel. The preparation takes place in Nicaragua [words indistinct] arms by land to El Salvador. [Words indistinct] in San Rafael del Sur, the preparation of bases [words indistinct] El Salvador where the logistics materiel is prepared [words indistinct] El Salvador.

Regarding the countries that give direct support to the Salvadoran people through the Nicaraguan people, there are all the socialist countries, beginning with Russia which, through Cuba, directly supports the Salvadoran guerrillas. There are the Cuban people, the Cuban Government, especially; the German [as heard] Government; the Angolan Government; the people of Vietnam, who also support the Salvadoran guerrillas, and all the other socialist nations. This aid goes through Nicaragua. These countries have embassies in Nicaragua. That is where the contributions of these governments for the Salvadoran guerrillas are received. Germany is among the countries that militantly support the Sandinist cause and the cause of the Salvadoran people. It does so in the form of technicians, doctors and industrial assistance. The Cuban people provide the technical and tactical support for the preparation of military personnel as well as technical and industrial assistance for Nicaragua's industry. Also supporting these causes is Ethiopia, where I was sent at the end of October 1979 following the triumph of the revolution to learn about subsoil and vegetation.

This course was primarily to learn how to build tunnels, as the guerrillas call them, to hide camps in the mountains. I also received training on camouflage and on general vegetation. These courses are also taught in Vietnam, Angola and Cuba to Nicaraguan militarymen.

We also have countries that provide much help to the Salvadoran guerrillas through the Nicaraguan people. There are the Panamanian people, who through their Committee of Solidarity give aid to the Salvadoran guerrillas.

Regarding world leaders who support the Salvadoran guerrillas, we have Nicaraguans who are members of the National Directorate of the FSLN: Carlos Nunez, Luis Carrion, Humberto Ortega, Bayardo Arce, Jaime Wheelock, Victor Manuel Tirado Lopez, Daniel Ortega, Henry Ruiz and Tomas Borge.

Among commanders who directly support the guerrillas are Eden Pastora, chief of the national militias. We also have guerrilla commander Dora Maria Tellez, guerrilla commander Omar Lacayo, guerrilla commander Hilario Sanchez. We also have the direct support that Fidel Castro provides to the Salvadoran guerrillas through the Nicaraguan people and in the preparation of military personnel on his island.

There is also the direct support of the CPSU Central Committee, which also supports the Salvadoran guerrillas.

Regarding the way I was motivated to [words indistinct] the following reasons: In Nicaragua we were presented a picture of a situation that is not the real situation of the Salvadoran people. First, I was told that the armed forces were truly repressive, fascist, militarist, egoist. This [words indistinct] is not true, since they have a professional, decent, well-organized and disciplined armed forces.

I was also told that the guerrillas had liberated part of the Salvadoran territory and in that part, the guerrillas moved about freely. This is not true since no part of Salvadoran territory has been liberated. I had also been told that the guerrillas were receiving full and direct support from 100 percent of the Salvadoran people, but on coming to El Salvador I have found out that this is not true. Perhaps this propaganda means that the guerrillas have exaggerated things abroad, lie a bit, let's say, since they talk about total support. When one comes to El Salvador it is evident that there is no support and if there is any, it is very little and as a result of coercion.

The logistics of the revolutionary and guerrilla organizations of El Salvador, in comparison with the arms they have in central storehouses in Nicaragua, is very small since in El Salvador there is perhaps the amount of arms that [words indistinct] of the guerrillas, and Nicaragua, [words indistinct] largest amount of weapons [word indistinct] German Pomares complex, screening it by saying that it belongs to the FSLN. The purpose of these weapons is to [word indistinct] a liberated area or to mount political and military rearguards in the area to [words indistinct] the mission of the USSR Government of being able to seize the oil wells of Venezuela and Mexico, already has a foot in Nicaragua. It already has a foothold in the continental mainland and has chosen to win in El Salvador to create a direct rearguard for the Guatemalan guerrillas which, after the Salvadoran victory, would be supported [words indistinct] through various points, by land and sea. [Words indistinct] liberation of that country that pretends to divide American land into two parts, the North American and the South American territories, leaving Central America in the hands of socialism.

Also in the framework of the liberation of Nicaragua [words indistinct] may also be made to fall so Central America would fall in the hands of socialism, with Panama [words indistinct] South America. Costa Rica would also fall. [Words indistinct] the wish of getting to the oil wells of Mexico and Venezuela. [Words indistinct] a direct attack on the U.S. Government through the Mexican border [words indistinct] U.S. [words indistinct]. This is what the socialist governments envisage with regard to the struggle of the Central American people. [end recording]

FMLN LEADER SAYS U.S. ENGAGING IN 'DIRTY WAR'

PA201817 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 20 Feb 81

[Text] Salvador Cayetano Carpio, member of the General Command of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front, has said that the Pentagon strategists have begun to sink in a dirty war in El Salvador.

The U.S. people must feel deeply frustrated to see that their income taxes are financing an army such as the Salvadoran, which has raped and murdered U.S. nuns, he said. Commander Carpio said the Salvadorans and the Central Americans are not the ones who want a Vietnamization of this area, but U.S. imperialism is clearly taking the same steps with which it began its escalation in Vietnam.

In a statement made somewhere in El Salvador to the magazine FARABUNDO MARTI, whose fifth issue, for February, is being distributed in this capital, Carpio said: The bullets paid for by the U.S. taxpayers have killed not only Salvadorans but also North Americans. This must be deeply frustrating for the honest U.S. citizens who do not want to see their country involved in dirty wars.

He noted that as a result of the blows inflicted on the Salvadoran Air Force last month, the United States sped up the shipment of helicopter gunships to try to ovefcome, if only temporarily, the army crisis. He added that 10,000 grenades have been urgently sent to the army and that phosphorous, napalm and 500-pound bombs are falling on our towns. They destroy houses and massacre our people. This is the way Vietnam began and we are not the ones to blame. The people responsible for the Pentagon's policy are the ones to blame, Salvador Cayetano Carpio added. He noted U.S. military advisers have been sent as part of the U.S. escalation in El Salvador. He said they are not just going to perform the simple task of being advisers.

FMLN-FDR REJECT U.S. CHARGES OF FOREIGN SUPPORT

PA211641 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 21 Feb 81

[Text] The Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN] and the Revolutionary Democratic Front [FDR] of El Salvador today rejected U.S. charges of alleged foreign support for the Salvadoran people's armed insurrection.

The joint political-diplomatic commission of the FMLN and the FDR issued a communique in Mexico City emphatically denying that the Salvadoran insurrectional forces have received weapons from the governments of Vietnam, Cuba, Nicaragua, the Soviet Union or any other country.

The communique charged that the tour that several special U.S. envoys began a few days ago through several Latin American and European countries seeks to bring the Salvadoran case to the world's attention as an example of alleged Soviet expansionism.

Th FMLN-FDR commission issued a call to the governments and peoples who sympathize with or believe in the struggle of the Salvadoran people to firmly reject the U.S. Government's action. It also demanded that the solidarity movements organized on all continents denounce this action as a new demonstration of open U.S. intervention in the domestic affairs of the Salvadoran people. It added that this proves the capitulation, incompetence and bad reputation of the military-Christian Democratic junta. It warned the U.S. allies that world peace is seriously threatened by Washington's efforts to change the national character of the Salvadoran people's struggle and make it part of the cold war President Reagan is promoting, thus endangering the security of the peoples of Europe and the world.

The communique stressed that it is the United States, and not the governments it has accused, that is really interventing in El Salvador and threatening peace on the continent.

It emphasized that the evidence with which the U.S. State Department seeks to prove the alleged interference of other countries in El Salvador is completely false. The Reagan administration, it added, has no moral authority to accuse other governments of providing military aid to the Salvadoran people's forces. The current maneuver of the U.S. State Department is a real affront to the intelligence and dignity of the peoples and governments to which it has directed its diplomatic offensive."

The FMLN and FDR charged that the U.S. Government's maneuver seeks to justify its support of the Salvadoran military regime and isolate the legitimate representatives of the Salvadoran people internationally.

The joint political-diplomatic commission, which was recently created with plenipotentiary character to represent the struggle of the Salvadoran people and the FMLN and FDR positions before the governments of the world, said one of the essential objectives of the current insurrection is the recovery of national independence. The commission added that the U.S. practice of telling other peoples who their acceptable friends and allies can be is a policy that has already been ignored, as is shown by the positions of Mexico, Panama, Nicaragua, Ecuador, Cuba and many other countries.

VILLALOBOS CHARGES U.S. PLANNING INTERVENTION

PA212029 Paris AFP in Spanish 0146 GMT 21 Feb 81

[Text] San Jose, 20 Feb (AFP)--Commenting on recent charges that the Salvadoran insurgents are being supplied with weapons by the socialist countries, guerrilla commander Joaquin Villalobos said the United States "is seeking to establish conditions that favor its policy of direct intervention in El Salvador."

"We have requested aid from more than just the socialist nations," Villalobos admitted here, however. Villalobos, a member of the leadership of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) and top leader of the People's Revolutionary Army (ERP), made these statements in an interview released here by the INDEPENDENT PRESS AGENCY (AIP), which is linked to Salvadoran leftists.

"We have nothing to hide," he said, "and we have also requested aid from capitalist governments and from a large number of forces which, with their solidarity, have made it possible for the war of legitimate defense being waged by our people at this time to be continued."

The United States has launched a diplomatic offensive with Latin American governments and its European allies, to which it has presented a document allegedly containing "proof" of socialist involvement in supplying arms to the Salvadoran guerrillas. Villalobos said the United States is using this document to pave the way for a future direct intervention in his country. This, Villalobos said, "would cause grave international problems for the United States, even with some Latin American governments like Mexico, Ecuador and Panama that are opposed to any intervention in El Salvador."

The guerrilla commander accused the United States of "giving a great deal of aid to the Salvadoran Government, which is massacring the people," and said the United States has launched an "interventionist campaign" in his country. As an example, he noted the shipment of arms, materiel and military advisers, as well as the "utilization of the armies of Honduras sand Guatemala" in this campaign.

Villalobos also rejected the theory that the conflict in El Salvador is one in which the interests of the United States and the USSR are in dispute. "That is an imperialist trick," he said, "to justify its interventionist attitude, which permits the reactionary sectors headed by Ronald Reagan to end the frustration caused by the defeat in Vietnam."

Asked about the repercussions of any direct U.S. intervention in the Salvadoran struggle, Villalobos said that "it would reduce the chances of a people's victory in the short term, but on the other hand would create more favorable conditions for revolution throughout Central America."

"In such a case," he said, "all the countries of the area would certainly become involved and this would help to create an anti-imperialist tendency unfavorable to the United States."

The FMLN leader referred to prospects for a negotiated solution to the present civil war underway in the country. "Our policy of dialogue," he said, "is based on the search for a political solution that, without harming the peoples' interests, will reduce the sacrifice of our people in achieving a government of broad popular participation."

RADIO VENCEREMOS: GOVERNMENT BOMBS MORAZAN

PA202201 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 2300 GMT 19 Feb 81

[Text] On the morning of February 19, six Fouga Majestic enemy planes bombed several of our positions in Morazan Department. They did not cause even the slightest harm to the various positions which the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN] maintains in the liberated territories in Morazan Department.

When we saw the Fouga Majestic planes fly by at a distance from Radio Venceremos' broadcast site on their way to bombing our positions and the civilian population in Morazan, we could not help recalling the experiences of the peasants of Guernica in Spain when the death squadrons of the Nazi air force dropped bombs on women, children, and elderly people.

When we saw big Sergeant Duarte's death squadrons cross Morazan's skies, we also remembered seeing the genocidal planes Somoza sent against the civilian population in Rivas, Esteli, Matagalpa, Managua and Leon.

The dictatorship has reached an extreme in its desperation. Duarte has gone mad. He has sent genocidal planes to slaughter the population in Morazan (?the way he did) south of La Union, San Miguel Usulutan, San Vicente and various places in the country. Big Sergeant Duarte is showing the world that he has become a [words indistinct] genocidal killer who is killing the Salvadoran people en masse to defend the interests of the oligarchy and Yankee imperialism.

Radio Venceremos reports to the world that prior to the (?aerial) attack against these various places, a U.S.-made reconnaissance plane which had not been seen until now among the [word indistinct] Salvadoran Air Force planes, flew over Morazan pointing out the locations of the FMLN positions in those liberated territories.

With this U.S. plane [words indistinct] of gunman Reagan, indications are being given to the dictatorship and the death squadrons as to the location of the civilian population so they can go and massacre it. Fortunately, up to this moment we have no reports of casualties. At any rate, we are doing everything possible to gather information from the various places on which the enemy, using six Fouga Majestic Israeli planes, dropped its load of hatred and destruction.

Radio Venceremos charges before El Salvador and the world that big Sergeant Duarte is carrying out savage and indiscriminate bombings throughout the nation against the civilian population. In addition, Radio Venceremos calls on the civilian population of these liberated areas to build bomb shelters and camouflage them with large logs, rocks and soil for protection against these genocidal bombings.

CLASHES REPORTED IN CAPITAL, OTHER AREAS

PA201516 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2007 GMT 19 Feb 81

[Text] San Salvador, 19 Feb (LATIN)--Extremists and security forces clashed today in various parts of the country. Meanwhile, police have reported the discovery of 16 bodies in San Salvador and San Miguel, 130 km east of here.

According to an official report, the main clashes took place in Santa Ana, the country's second largest city, 67 km west of San Salvador; in San Lorenzo, 60 km to the east, and in the capital. The sources did not mention casualties and gave no details on the clashes. However, eyewitnesses here said groups of extremists attacked several urban buses this morning and parked them across the streets to block traffic.

Meanwhile, the council of Jose Simeon Canas Central American University has asked the government to release eight members of the council of the University of San Salvador. The 8 council members, as well as 13 released over the weekend, were arrested early this month while holding a meeting in violation of the state of siege, the official announcement said. Official sources said the eight in custody will be transferred to military counrts. No specific charges were mentioned.

The state of siege was imposed in March 1980 to curb a wave of political violence. The violence did not abate and in turn resulted in the deaths of 13,000 people in 1980, according to sources from the local Human Rights Commission.

PRIEST DEPLORES VIOLENCE IN SUNDAY SERMON

PA230244 Paris AFP in Spanish 2129 GMT 22 Feb 81

[Excerpt] San Salvador, 22 Feb (AFP)--The Salvadoran Catholic Church today again called on the warring groups to end the violence during the Sunday homily of the San Salvadoran Archbishopric read by Father Manuel Torruella in the cathedral.

Torruella emphasized the need for peace in the country, stating that El Salvador is undergoing a devastating process of destruction from the violence with which it is beset. "It is sad to see our country destroyed. It is tragic to see the buses, gas stations and cotton plantations burned," the priest exclaimed. "What will be left to a country as poor as ours after this hecatombe? No matter who wins, what will we have left?" the priest asked, answring that we will find a most impoverished country, one that is without resources, in debt and completely destroyed.

Later, Father Torruella commented that "whoever wins will have to ask for aid and some countries will send technicians and weapons, even if what we need is money and food."

Apart from these comments, Torruella, who replaced Msgr Arturo Rivera in the reading of the archbishopric's homily, was brief and did not make any special comments on any of the recent events that have taken place in the country.

NICARAGUA

GOVERNMENT PROTESTS HONDURAN BORDER ATTACKS

Foreign Ministry Note

PA201737 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 20 Feb 81

[Text] Nicaragua has offered its friendship to the Honduran Government but it demands respect for our sovereignty. In a news conference yesterday, Acting Foreign Minister Francisco Fiallos Navarro made known the Nicaraguan Government's protest note to the Honduran Government over the frequent violations of our sovereignty. He also said that after the armed incidents on the northern border in the sectors of El Rincon and Santo Tomas de Nance a large group of the Honduran National Guard was mobilized in the area of Guasaule.

Through the Foreign Ministry, the National Reconstruction Government expressed its condemnation of the frequent violations of our sovereignty.

These protest have been made known to the Honduran foreign secretary through diplomatic channels on several occasions but these have not been answered by the Honduran Government. Here is Acting Foreign Minister Francisco Fiallos Navarro releasing the Nicaraguan Government's protest note to Honduras over the violation of our sovereignty:

[Begin recording] Yesterday this Foreign Ministry received a note from the Honduran foreign secretary which was delivered to our ambassador in Tegucigalpa. The note protested the alleged violation of Honduran territory by Nicaraguan troops. Today we have replied to that note which does not reflect the reality of the events. We have rejected it and told the Honduran Government that we protest this and that we add this protest to many others we have sent to the Honduran Government as a result of the constant provocations and terrorist acts of Somozist bands which operate in Honduran territory with the support of some sectors of the Honduran Army.

We have clearly explained to the Honduran Government that our territory has been violated and that our troops were attacked. We stated that at no time did we open fire but that when our troops did so it was to reply to a treacherous attack by Honduran soldiers.

We also stated that in the face of the many provocations by elements that come from Honduras, the Nicaraguan Government has remained calm and we have not assumed a violent attitude. Instead, as a result of the pacifist and fraternal spirit of the Nicaraguan Government and our respect for the Honduran people, we have tried to avoid this type of (?incident). However, so far we have not received a satisfactory explanation.

We want to tell the Nicaraguan people and the international community that the Nicaraguan Government continues with that pacifist and fraternal spirit and that we offer our friendship to the Honduran Government but we also demand respect for our sovereignty. We hope that these incidents will not be repeated and that these problems will be resolved through peaceful and diplomatic channels. [end recording]

Defense Ministry Communique

PA201547 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0300 GMT 20 Feb 81

[Defense Ministry communique]

[Text] The Nicaraguan Defense Ministry reports to the Nicaraguan people the following events that have occurred in the northern border:

1. On Monday, 16 February, at 2030, 10 fully identified Honduran National Guardsmen armed with their regulation weapons, (?Fal rifles), entered Nicaraguan territory up to the area of the village of El Rincon, 1 km south of the town of Santo Tomas de Nance, also in Nicaraguan territory. The Honduran guardsmen stayed in the sector for 2 to 3 hours and then returned to Honduran territory.

2. On Tuesday, 17 February, at 0930, another group of Honduran National Guardsmen coming from the confluence of the (Tiscagua) River in Honduran territory entered our territory and attacked two soldiers, members of our border guards, who were patrolling the area between [names indistinct] as a result of the attack, the Honduran soldiers forced our soldiers to take cover in a house in El Rincon, from where they repelled the atttack of the invaders. The townspeople notified our troops [words indistinct]. The troops arrived at approximately 1230 and immediately engaged the Honduran guardsmen until 1530, when the headquarters of the region, in attitude of prudence in the face of the aggression, ordered with withdrawal of our troops. It was subsequently confirmed at the site of the incident that the invading Honduran guardsmen used Fal rifles [words indistinct] and 60-mm mortars. Our troops did not sustain any casualties. It is not knwon if the attacking Honduran guardsmen sustained any casualties.

3. On Wednesday, 18 February, beginning at 1700 the movement of small groups of Honduran National Guardsmen was detected in the area of the border post at [name indistinct]. The zone where the invaders moved is located 7 km south of the town of [words indistinct] in Chinandega Department. This Honduran incursion more than 2 km across the border and across the Guasaule River, a natural border in the area, shows clear aggression against our sovereignty by the attackers.

[Signed] Public Relations Section, Defense Ministry. Free fatherland or death!

HUMAN RIGHTS ACTIVIST GONZALEZ INDICTED

PA212017 Paris AFP in Spanish 0531 GMT 21 Feb 81

[Text] Managua, 21 Feb (AFP)--Jose Esteban Gonzalez, coordinator of the Nicaraguan Permanent Commission for Defense of Human Rights, was formally indicted today by the Sandinist Government on charges of violating the law on the maintenance of public order and state security. Meanwhile, the Superior Council of Private Enterprise (COSEP), issued a declaration protesting Gonzalez' arrest.

So far police have not indicated in what prison Gonzalez is being held, but unofficial sources presume he is being held at the "El Chipote" army camp. Justice Minister Ernesto Castillo explained that the arrest order has been issued by Felix Trejos, judge of the first criminal court of Managua, who began the proceedings today.

Danilo Lacayo, assistant attorney general of the republic, appeared before the court this afternoon as prosecutor. He charged that Gonzalez had violated Decree No 34 of the revolutionary government. This decree banks verbal or written statements or proclamations that go against public security, the national economy, or the morality and dignity of individuals. Lacayo said Nicaragua's integrity is threatened by the statements made recently by Gonzalez abroad regarding the political situation in the country.

Gonzalez said in Rome a week ago that there are 8,000 political prisoners in Nicaragua and that torture continues to be practiced in the same manner as under the overthrown Somozist regime.

The Sandinist government explained that there are only 4,500 prisoners in the country and that these are being held not for political reasons but for common crimes, since they are former Somozist guardsmen convicted of atrocities committed under the dictatorship. The revolutionary government also describes as slanderous, Gonzalez' statement that torture is still practiced in Nicaragua.

This type of police practice has been totally abolished and penalties have even been established for authorities who practice it, official representatives stated. Prosecutor Lacayo said in his presentation that Gonzalez "is trying, by his actions, to support the plans of the enemies of the Nicaraguan revolution."

The decree-law under which Gonzalez was accused provides prison sentences for violators ranging from 2 months to 3 years' hard labor in the municipality in which the sentence is applied.

Gonzalez' Position Unchanged

PA221809 Paris AFP in Spanish 0321 GMT 22 Feb 81

[Text] Managua, 22 Feb (AFP)--Jose Esteban Gonzalez, coordinator of the Permanent Human Rights Committee, today refused to change his statements to a judge regarding supposed violations of human rights in Nicaragua and said he would rather go to prison.

The leader of the opposition Nicaraguan Social Christian Party was indicted on charges of violating public order before the judge of the Third Criminal Court of Managua, who could sentence him to 2 months to 3 years hard labor.

Gonzalez insisted that there are 800 missing persons in this country and pointed out that during his hearing he would also have the chance to prove that torture is being practiced in Nicaragua.

Asked if he would hold to the statement he made in Europe to the effect that there are 8,000 political prisoners in Nicaragua, Gonzalez avoided the question by commenting that there is no official census of political prisoners. He also said highly placed government representatives on various occasions have given different figures in this regard "for which my assertion can be as valid as any of theirs."

The Sandinist government maintains that the number of prisoners, all of them sentenced for atrocities during the war, is just barely over 3,000, that nobody has disappeared since the Somozist dictatorship was overthrown and that the present prison system prohibits torture.

During Gonzalez' hearing, police had to disperse a group of militant Sandinists who came to express their objection to the opposition leader.

BORGE FAVORS POLITICAL SOLUTION IN EL SALVADOR

PA221919 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1548 GMT 21 Feb 81

[Text] Managua, 21 Feb (ACAN-EFE)--Nicaraguan Interior Minister Commander Tomas Borge has announced here that he favors a political solution to the Salvadoran conflict.

In an interview for Spanish television, Commander Borge noted that naturally this political solution must be sought by the Salvadorans themselves without foreign interference.

Tomas Borge stated that in his opinion, the Salvadoran guerrillas have not been defeated nor has the Salvadoran Army achieved a military victory. "But since the conflict is prolonged, as is the anguish of the Salvadoran people, humanitarian action is called for," Commander Borge stated.

The Sandinist commander said that if the Nicaraguan Government were asked to mediate in the conflict, there is a possibility that this country would serve as mediator. Nevertheless, the Nicaraguan leader added, "The parties in conflict are the ones who should contribute solutions on what is best for the country, but on the basic premise that there be no foreign intervention in the matter."

HAVANA INTERVIEWS STATE COUNCIL PRESIDENT NUNEZ

PA210448 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 21 Feb 81

[Interview with Commander of the Revolution Carlos Nunez, President of the State Council of Nicaragua, in Havana; date not given--recorded]

[Text] [Question] Commander, I would like to hear your opinion regarding the importance of the CPSU Congress and about the present international political situation.

[Answer] First, I want to say that the importance we attribute to the congress is made evident by the level of the Nicaraguan delegation that will attend it. Most of the companeros who accompany me are members of the Sandinist Assembly of the Sandinist National Liberation Front, including Commander Dora Maria Tellez, who is a member of the secretariat.

The 26th CPSU Congress is taking placein the midst of a world situation that is characterized by great tension. This tension is a source of great concern since our revolution believes that the future of mankind is at stake because a war would lead to a catastrophe that would endanger the very existence of mankind.

This world tension, this international situation, has had repercussions in our country. These repercussions definitely indicate that pressure does exist and that an omen of gloom is hanging over our country and the Central American region.

We characterize the situation in our country as very difficult, since we are facing a year in which we know we have to fulfill very complex economic tasks while furthering the revolution and providing our people with the social benefits they require.

We have begun to feel the pressure from the most aggressive U.S. circles. There has been financial and economic pressure. There is the struggle we had to wage to obtain the $75-million loan, 15 million of which is still to be delivered. It appears that this amount will not be made available considering the threats that have been issued concerning the suspension of the Inter-American Development Bank loan which would be invested to obtain wheat.

We must say that [words indistinct] our country to make them understand that this wheat means bread. Resorting to this type of action is base and sets a dangerous precedent. For small countries such as ours which have been sacked for years and now exist only as a result of a revolution, the utilization of food as a means of pressure means the utilization of a tactic that goes against the dignity of people and hurts the nature of [words indistinct].

The threat of such a suspension, or the suspension itself, would mean that our country would have to get ready to face a much more difficult situation, a much more complex situation because if we are threatened with suspensions of food provisions now, what can we expect in the future? We must undoubtedly expect an intensification of the activities of the Somozist bands that have been operating in Honduras; or, an even greater danger, that the aggressive sectors that are now threatening us with the suspension of food supplies may one of these days get ideas about bigger adventures against our country.

Our domestic efforts are being aimed at strengthening production and defense tasks. We must say that we have been forced to explain to our people that it is necessary to strengthen the defense because there have been repeated attacks from Somozist bands, and it has been demonstrated that these bands are operating with arms that can only be maintained, maneuvered, and utilized if there is support from abroad. And we have to be on top of that. This is why we are strengthening our defenses and directing our efforts toward the people's militia.

International tension has directly affected our country and this is why we call this year the year of defense and production.

Further Interview

PA222116 Havana International Service in Spanish 1820 GMT 22 Feb 81

[Interview with Commander of the Revolution Carlos Nunez Tellez, president of the State Council of Nicaragua, by Pedro Martinez Pires; place, date not given--recorded]

[Text] [Question] As the threat of a U.S. financial encirclement hovers over Nicaragua, U.S. economic and military aid is increased to El Salvador. We would like to hear your opinion on this subject and on the threat of U.S. intervention in Central America which is specifically intended to paralyze the struggle of the Salvadoran people.

[Answer] We obviously think that an attempt has been made to involve Nicaragua and to turn it into a center of attack (?particularly) against El Salvador. But even this, to a great degree, is intended to distract the attention of progressive, democratic and revolutionary forces, of peoples and governments of the world, away from the help being received by the Christian democratic junta of El Salvador. That is, that [words indistinct] accuses Nicaragua of promoting the strengthening of [words indistinct] which definitely has been the characteristic because of its genocidal policy with relation to El Salvador. Everyone, I am certain, is very sure of this.

Moreover, we believe that the situation of El Salvador must be resolved by the forces in conflict and that a real political, economic and social problem exists there which cannot escape anyone's attention, which cannot deceive anyone. There are forces there that are gathering strength and the Salvadoran people have their own right to seek liberty. They have come to the conclusion that this government no longer represents the people who are free to choose their own fate. The peoples forces and organizations now have the responsibility to define the situation or to outline the best solution to a crisis that has arisen as long as it benefits the Salvadoran people.

[Question] Commander Nunez: Recently in New Delhi, the Nonaligned Movement ratified its solidarity with Nicaragua. In addition, it cautioned those financial institutions which are trying to boycott it economically. What does this support expressed by the 93 foreign minister from 4 continents mean for the Sandinist government?

[Answer] For us, it is a very important (?step). Furthermore, we could say that the solidarity that has been shown toward our country is being maintained, and this solidarity will be needed as there is a darkening cloud over the international arena. This is also a reiteration of this solidarity. [words indistinct] enemies of the Nicaraguan revolution have conducted, seeking the destruction of these pillars of solidarity of our country. It is true that they are based on confusion, on distortion as to what is really going on in Nicaragua, which [words indistinct] in our country. But in this sense, it is moral support.

We must say, in connection with the solidarity voiced at the recent meeting held in Nicaragua by the solidarity organizations, that we will continue to need, not only moral solidarity, but also political and material solidarity. But fundamentally, we will demand respect for our country so that it will continue along this path it has freely chosen and we will ask for solidarity for the (?canceling) of any adventure, any attempt to meddle and to directly intervene to overturn the revolution in this country.

RAMIREZ LAUDS SANDINO'S FEATS ON ANNIVERSARY

PA221950 Paris AFP in Spanish 0313 GMT 22 Feb 81

[Excerpts] Managua, 21 Feb (AFP)--"Thanks to Gen Augusto Cesar Sandino, Nicaragua today is a poor nation but a nation without foreign masters," government junta member Sergio Ramirez said today at commemorations of the 47th anniversary of the death of the famed guerrilla leaders.

Ramirez chaired a special event commemorating Sandino in Niquinohomo, 60 km southeast fo Managua, the hometown of General Sandino, who inspired the Nicaraguan revolution.

Ramirez, novelist and historian, termed despicable and heinous the politicians of the traditional liberal and conservative parties who, half a century ago, disregarding the heroic Sandinist feat of facing up to the U.S. marines to preserve the country's sovereignty, killed the guerrilla leader for their personal benefit.

"Those who want to give away the fatherland had better forget it, because the revolutionary peoples of Nicaragua will destroy them first, transforming themselves into the living fists of Sandino," Ramirez said to the ovation of those present.

Today's acts in Niquinohomo commemorating Sandino's death were attended by Mexican President Jose Lopez Portillo's special representative. The delegation was headed by Arsenio Farell Cubilla, director of the Mexican Social Security Institute.

SEIZURE OF ECUADOREAN EMBASSY IN HAVANA RESOLVED

Release of Hostages Announced

FL201113 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 20 Feb 81

[Text] In a note issued by the Foreign Ministry, the Cuban Government has announced that as a result of the firm attitude adopted by the Cuban authorities, who have refused to negotiate with the persons who seized the Ecuadorean Embassy, and kidnapped the ambassador, his excellency Jorge Perez Concha, and other officials and employees. The kidnappers surrendered their weapons to the Ecuadorean ambassador last night who, together with the other hostages, immediately left the embassy. The Cuban Government continues to demand that the kidnappers also proceed to surrender unconditionally.

Embassy Stormed

PA211220 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1028 GMT 21 Feb 81

[Excerpts] Havana, 21 Feb (REUTER)--Security troops today entered the Ecuadorean Embassy here and arrested the 29 Cubans who had occupied the building 8 days ago, the Cuban Government announced. A government statement indicates that no one was injured and that the embassy takeover was accomplished without firing a shot. The Cubans, who were demanding political asylum and safe-conducts to leave the country, tookover the embassy on 13 February, holding the ambassador, two diplomats and a Cuban secretary hostage. Two days later they released one of the diplomats and 2 days ago they released the remaining hostages and turned over their weapons, although they did not surrender. Cuban security troops off the embassy and the government rejected the demands of the dissidents, although it awaited the Ecuadorean Government's authorization before entering the building and ending the occupation.

The Cuban Government communique states that the arrest of the group "confirms that the Cuban Government will not yield to the blackmail of those who want to use diplomatic missions in Cuba or pressure accredited diplomats to secure illegitimate ends." It adds that "according to the desire expressed by the Ecuadorean Government," those arrested today in the Ecuadorean Embassy will not face the death penalty. There was some confusion as to the number of persons who had occupied the embassy. A statement by the Ecuadorean Government mentioned that the occupants numbered 31, while diplomatic sources stated here that the occupants were 10 adults and 4 children. The Cuban authorities informed an Ecuadorean delegation which arrived to discuss the alternatives for ending the occupation that three persons in the group, including their self-styled leader, Romulo Delgado, have criminal records and that Delgado was wanted by the police.

SOVIET ARMED FORCES ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATED

FL210209 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 21 Feb 81

[Text] The Revolutionary Armed Forces [FAR] celebration of the 63d anniversary of the founding of the Soviet Union's Armed Forces was held this afternoon at the FAR's Universal Hall. The ceremony was presided over by Div Gen Senen Casas Regueiro, first vice minister of the FAR and chief of the General Staff, and Div Gen Sixto Batista Santana, chief of the FAR's Central Political Directorate--both alternate members of the Communist Party of Cuba [PCC] Politburo. Also presiding was Lt Gen Sergey Krivoplyasov, chief of the Soviet military experts in our country, and Navy Capt (Gennadiy Mikhaylov), military, naval and air attache of the USSR Embassy in Cuba. Speaking on behalf of our Revolutionary Armed Forces was Vice Adm Aldo Santamaria Cuadrado, vice minister of the FAR, chief of the Cuban Revolutionary Navy and member of the PCC Central Committee. Rear Adm (Yuriy Aleksandrovich Stavnishenko) spoke on behalf of the Soviet military specialists. Many Soviet military specialists and generals, chiefs, and officers of our Revolutionary Armed Forces attended the ceremony.